



Dakota County

Legislation Text

File #: DC-1724, Version: 1

DDEPARTMENT: Office of the County Manager

FILE TYPE: Regular Action

TITLE

Adoption Of Resolution Of Support For Efforts Of Community Supervision Work Group

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt a resolution of support of the efforts of the Community Supervision Work Group and urge the legislature to pass a new funding formula and significant appropriation during the 2023 legislative session.

SUMMARY

Dakota County supports changes to the community supervision funding model so that state fund allocations are transparent, needs based, and equitable among county and state supervision providers. Counties need a substantial increase in community supervision funding to achieve this model. Community supervision is a fundamental part of the criminal justice system in Minnesota and funding sufficient to ensure effective services is vital to public safety in all communities across the state community supervision includes services such as probation, supervised release, and intensive supervised release.

Minnesota's counties provide essential community supervision services both as mandated by M.S. Chapter 244.19 and also as delegated by the Department of Corrections under M.S. Chapter 401; When the Legislature decided that community supervision was best delivered through a state-county partnership, it stated a clear intent that the state would provide significant funding to the counties for the operation of local programs. Over the past 20 years, Minnesota has become the state with the lowest level of corrections funding in the nation because the Legislature has not upheld its promise to provide adequate state resources to support community supervision. The Legislature's failure to adequately fund community supervision has increased local property taxes on residents and businesses.

A revised community supervision funding formula is necessary to ensure that all communities in Minnesota have enough state funding to provide a consistent standard for effective, evidence-based community supervision services, regardless of local capacity to pay. The Association of Minnesota Counties assembled the Community Supervision Work Group including county leaders and experts in community supervision from all three supervision delivery systems to study the needs of community supervision departments statewide and develop a single funding formula that is transparent, needs based, and equitable among county and state supervision providers. The Community Supervision Workgroup has taken up its charge to convene stakeholders across the three probation delivery systems to oversee a study to create a unified recommendation for an equitable and adequate funding formula and appropriation.

The percentage of the Community Corrections budget to provide probation supervision covered by the CCA subsidy has decreased from 42% in 2012 to 36% in 2022. If Dakota County was reimbursed by the state at the 42% rate, our CCA subsidy would need to increase by \$834,701. The State of Minnesota does not provide funding for County operated adult or juvenile facilities so the costs to operate the Juvenile Service Center were not included in this analysis. Both branches of the state legislature attempted to increase funding for Community Corrections in 2022 but failed to come to an agreement. The increase for Dakota County would have been \$1.4 million in the Senate version and \$2.9 million in the House version.

The board of directors of the Association of Minnesota Counties that represent the diverse interests of Minnesota's 87 counties voted to support a new funding formula that provides counties with the resources needed to keep communities safe.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed resolution.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is no direct fiscal impact as the result of adopting the resolution of support. If certain positions are adopted by the State Legislature, the budget for County activities may be affected. In such cases, budget amendments will be recommended for the Board's approval.

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|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> Current budget | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Requested | | <input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested |

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, community supervision is a fundamental part of the criminal justice system in Minnesota and funding sufficient to ensure effective services is vital to public safety in all communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, community supervision includes services such as probation, supervised release, and intensive supervised release; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's counties provide essential community supervision services both as mandated by M.S. Chapter 244.19 and also as delegated by the Department of Corrections under M.S. Chapter 401; and

WHEREAS, when the Legislature decided that community supervision was best delivered through a state-county partnership, it stated a clear intent that the state would provide significant funding to the counties for the operation of local programs; and

WHEREAS, over the past 20 years, Minnesota has become the state with the lowest level of corrections funding in the nation because the Legislature has not upheld its promise to provide adequate state resources to support community supervision; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature's failure to adequately fund community supervision has increased local property taxes on residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, a revised community supervision funding formula is necessary to ensure that all

communities in Minnesota have enough state funding to provide a consistent standard for effective, evidence-based community supervision services, regardless of local capacity to pay; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Minnesota Counties assembled the Community Supervision Work Group including county leaders and experts in community supervision from all three supervision delivery systems to study the needs of community supervision departments statewide and develop a single funding formula that is transparent, needs based, and equitable among county and state supervision providers; and

WHEREAS, the Community Supervision Workgroup has taken up its charge to convene stakeholders across the three probation delivery systems to oversee a study to create a unified recommendation for an equitable and adequate funding formula and appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Association of Minnesota Counties that represents the diverse interests of Minnesota's 87 counties, voted to support a new funding formula that provides counties with the resources needed to keep communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby endorses the efforts of the Community Supervision Work Group and urges the Legislature to pass a new funding formula and significant appropriation during the 2023 legislative session.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment: None.

BOARD GOALS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Great Place to Live | <input type="checkbox"/> A Healthy Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Successful Place for Business and Jobs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellence in Public Service |

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inform and Listen | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss | <input type="checkbox"/> Involve | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |
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CONTACT

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