



It is the mission of the Association to assist in the provision of effective county governance for the people of Minnesota.

Potential 2012 Legislative Issues

Environment and Natural Resources

Hot Topics in 2012:

- Vacation rental home regulation ordinance restrictions.
- Moratoria/interim use ordinances.
- DNR considering Shoreland Rulemaking.
- Possible E-Waste Legislation per PCA study recommendation.
- Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) Rule Language, potential for agreement between AMC and MPCA.
- Continued evaluation of drainage issues.
- Possible AMC/SWCD/WD joint water governance bill.

General Government

Hot Topics in 2012:

- Passage of the MAGIC Act
- Possible property tax cap proposals
- Redistricting
- Mandate Relief
- Possible Constitutional Amendments:
 1. Voter ID
 2. Right to Work
 3. 3/5^{ths} majority to increase taxes or 3/5^{ths} majority to allow taxes to be raised. This would impact all levels of government – levy limits.



Health and Human Services

Hot Topics in 2012:

- Non-emergency medical transportation (rural no load miles and urban 'broker' model).
- Sex offender civil commitment county cost share.
- DHS policy bills that did not pass last year. No items of significant concern in these bills at this time.
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) -- ideas for increased regulation may result in unfunded administrative burden for counties.
- Family planning program funding for counties sometimes gets drawn into abortion politics.
- Health care reform (e.g. insurance exchange, health care reform task force). Numerous work groups might result in legislation.
- Consolidation of county human services might be brought forward in reform ideas by legislators or other groups.

Affiliate Priorities | Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA):

- Administrative Simplification – building on work from last year.
- Vulnerable Children and Adults (VCA) formula. Last year the CCSA block grant was reduced and refocused on vulnerable children and adults. MACSSA has a work group studying the new formula and this might result in legislative activity.

Affiliate Priorities | Local Public Health Association of Minnesota (LPHA):

- Follow up on changes made last year to SHIP funding and statutory language, which include a study of hospital and health plan community benefit dollars.
- Continuing care changes (level of need, etc.); personal care assistance; changes in long term care program roles and responsibilities.

Public Safety

Hot Topics in 2012:

- Comprehensive Review and modification to sex offender supervision, civil commitment processes, and the MSOP.
- Jail bed space availability and staffing rule modifications.
- Clarification of state and county responsibilities as it pertains to public defenders.

Affiliate Priorities | Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties (MACCAC):

- Extended juvenile stays of adjudication
- Establish definitive juvenile sex offender registration criteria
- Implementation of Evidenced Based Practices (EBP)

For more information, please contact AMC's Intergovernmental Services Staff:

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**This position is currently VACANT. Please contact Jeff Spartz, Executive Director, with any General Government questions.*

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Transportation

Hot Topics in 2012:

- Streamlining for water permitting process for local and MnDOT transportation projects
- Protecting fee proceeds coming from the forest products hauling permit and raw agricultural product haulers permit to continue to fund local bridge inspections and weight limit postings
- Streamlining rulemaking at MNDOT state aid to reduce implementation time by one year
- Re-issuing the Design Build Pilot Program for local transportation projects.
- Governor's Transportation Finance Advisory Panel with County input.

Local Road and Bridge Bonding:

- \$100M request for the Rural Road Safety Account and Routes of Regional Significance – includes 10 Ton Road System
- \$75M request for Local Bridges

Workforce/Economic Development

Hot Topics in 2012:

- New Jobs Tax Credits focused on immediate job creation.
- Expansion of the Minnesota Investment Fund
- Expansion of the FastTRAC (Training, Resources and Credentialing) Initiative, integrating basic skills education and career-specific training in fields where new skills are in high demand.
- Short-term job training grant funding.

Affiliate Priorities | Minnesota Workforce Council Association (MWCA):

- Ensuring that the Workforce Development Fund remains true to its intended purposes.
- Maintaining governance and oversight responsibilities of the private sector-led local workforce councils and the role of local elected officials as envisioned in the Federal Workforce Investment Act.

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