

# Senator Dibble Proposal

## Twin Cities Metropolitan Governance

### Two bodies

- Metropolitan Regional Civic Council
- Metropolitan Regional Local Government Council

### Regional Civic Council

- 19 members: 16 elected to represent districts, 3 at large, appointed by the Governor
- All districts to be equal in size. Districting consistent with laws allowing for creation of minority opportunity districts
- Staggered terms
- Gubernatorial appointees serve a set term
- Chair elected by the body from their own
- Non-partisan elections, funded by with a public election finance system similar to Minnesota Legislature's public finance system
- All tax and bonding provisions, and all discretionary policy decisions, and responsibility for delivery of public services (transit, sewers, etc.) originate from the directly elected body
- Salary is the average of metro area county commissioners
- Includes a dedicated and fiscal research and analysis staff (including staff dedicated to supporting work and office of individual members)
- Members are encouraged and incited to avail themselves of national and international educational opportunities on issues of regional governance, planning and services

### Local Government Council

- Comprised of locally elected officials
- Two types of districts: County Districts and Municipal (cities and townships) Districts, apportioned proportionally according to population
- County appointees selected by a caucus of counties
- Municipal appointees selected by a like caucus of cities and townships
- Number of members should be at least as large as Regional Civic Council, with sufficient number to ensure proportionality (or providing for weighted voting), and allowing for greater County representation
- Each County must have at least one seat
- County districts would not cross county boundaries
- Municipal districts could be categorized as central cities, fully developed and emerging suburbs
- Terms to be staggered
- Appointees serve a set term
- Shall be consulted by Regional Civic Council on all major policy decisions
- Shall have the power by majority vote to require the Regional Civic Council to reconsider any major policy decisions
- Shall have the power, via two-thirds vote to veto major actions of the Regional Civic Council (paired with the ability for the Regional Civic Council to override via two-thirds vote).
- Must ratify any new major policy power or expansion of scope, authority and duties of the Regional Civic Council (except those mandated and directed by the Legislature)
- Hold an equal number of voting seats on Committees of the Regional Civic Council
- Members paid for additional time and responsibilities (within bounds of state law and state constitution)
- Members are encouraged and incited to avail themselves of national and international educational opportunities on issues of regional governance, planning and services