

**Minnesota Association for Court Management
Resolution in support of the federal Local Courthouse Safety Act of
2012 (S.2076)**

WHEREAS, open access to secure, safe courts promotes a sense of confidence in the stability of civil government; and

WHEREAS, recent incidents of violence in state and local courts have highlighted the need for improved security for court facilities; and

WHEREAS, breaches of court security and violence towards prosecutors, witnesses, judges, court personnel and participants in the judicial process have resulted in serious injuries or death; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that citizens feel confident and safe in seeking access to their courts and that court personnel feel safe in the performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, counties have been reviewing and upgrading their security policies, procedures, and equipment to respond to the new realities primarily at their own expense and are unable to bear the increasing cost of providing adequate security for court facilities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would give states authority to use existing grant money to improve courthouse security; and

WHEREAS, excess security equipment no longer being used by the federal government could be utilized in local courthouses; and

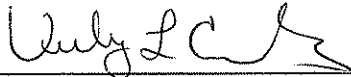
WHEREAS, protection of our courthouses allows for the protection of the rights granted in the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Association for Court Management:

- Endorses the Local Courthouse Safety Act of 2012 (S.2076) introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Al Franken during the 112th Congress, and cosponsored by Senator Amy Klobuchar and Senator John Boozman;

- Commends and thanks the two U.S. senators from its state who have taken the initiative on this important matter; and
- Urges the U.S. Congress to enact this legislation speedily in order to protect further the state and local courthouses of our nation.

Adopted by electronic vote of MACM Board Members on February 13, 2012.



Vicky L. Carlson
President