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WLSSD

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## Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

March 24, 2023

RE: SCORE/ Allocation of revenues from solid waste management tax modification

To Whom It May Concern:

**We write to you today to urge your support for SCORE, Solid Waste Management Tax Allocations (HF1785/SF1587).**

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) provides wastewater and solid waste services and oversight for a 530 square mile region that overlaps the southeastern portion of St. Louis County and Northeastern Carlton County.

SCORE grants provide funding for recycling programs, food waste management and prevention, composting and compostable management, waste reduction and management of household hazardous wastes and other problem materials. SCORE is an important part of solid waste budgets, but it is insufficient for the infrastructure investments and program changes needed to achieve zero-waste.

This legislation would redirect the 30% of the Solid Waste Management Tax (SWMT) that is currently going to the General Fund to the Environmental Fund, and require that, that 30% be directed to counties through SCORE Grants. The SWMT is a user fee collected on solid waste generated at the local level, but with a full 30% of these funds being funneled to the general fund, local solid waste management and waste reduction efforts are being seriously shortchanged.

The proposal was heard in Tax Committee and laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. I hope that you will support this legislation and include this provision in the Omnibus Tax bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marianne Bohren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marianne Bohren  
Executive Director  
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District