

100%

100% Campaign
705 Raymond Ave. - Suite 100
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www.100percentmn.org

February 28, 2023

Chair Koegel and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our support for House File 1346 (Kraft), House File 2036 (Carroll), House File 749 (Reyer), and House File 2170 (Berg).

As we transition to a more equitable and clean energy future, we have the opportunity to improve the lives of Minnesotans. This transition means more jobs, cleaner air, better buildings, and new transportation options. All four of these bills will play an important role in making this future possible for all of us.

First, we support House File 1346, Rep. Kraft's bill to establish an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program. Due to the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Minnesota is poised to receive an estimated \$68,164,918 from FY 2022-26 from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program, or NEVI. When paired with state investments, we can ensure Minnesotans, from Red Wing to Red Lake, have the option of driving an electric vehicle. Establishing this program is an important way to keep us moving down this road.

Second, we support Rep. Carroll's House File 2036, a bill to improve the use of renewable energy in state buildings. Rep. Carroll's bill would require certain state buildings that do not meet Minnesota's State Sustainable Building 2030 energy performance standards to use cost-effective renewable energy to reach compliance. This is one important way the state can lead during this transition, by making sure our public buildings are on track to have net zero carbon emissions.

Third, we support House File 749, Rep. Reyer's bill to add climate resiliency to the Minnesota's Sustainable Building Guidelines. This is a critical way to protect Minnesotans (and state investments) from projected climate change impacts like extreme precipitation or extreme heat. As we build or renovate using state capital investment funds we ought to be building for a climate-adapted future.

Fourth, we support House File 2170, Rep. Kaela Berg's bill to establish the 'Buy Clean and Buy Fair Minnesota Act'. The bill would require that materials used in the construction (or major renovation) of state buildings over 50,000 square feet or trunk highways include a Type III Environmental Product Declaration, as certified by the International Organization for Standard's 14025 Standard. Meeting this standard would help ensure that the steel, concrete, and asphalt paving materials that Minnesota uses have lower lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions. The bill provides a pilot program, a waiver process, grants to businesses to support compliance, and a requirement to report back to the legislature in 2025. All of these will help ensure the program meets its goals.

Transitioning to a net zero emissions economy by 2050 is a generational challenge for Minnesotans. It's one we can meet, if we enact legislation like this.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vautrin

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Legislative Director

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