

CleanEnergyEconomyMN.org

March 29, 2022

Minnesota House of Representatives Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee State Office Building Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for Future Fuels Act

Dear Chair Long and Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), we write today in support of HF 2083 – the Future Fuels Act. We support this bill and its market-driven approach that will improve our energy security, stimulate rural economic development and jobs, boost innovation, and slash emissions from our state's transportation sector.

CEEM is an industry-led, nonprofit organization representing the business voice of clean energy in Minnesota. We work to help educate Minnesotans about the economic benefits of transitioning to a clean energy economy and are committed to growing and strengthening Minnesota's clean energy business ecosystem. Our membership consists of more than 40 clean energy companies ranging from start-up businesses to Fortune 100 and 500 corporations which employ thousands of Minnesotans across the state.

We thank Chair Long, Chief Author Lippert, and committee members for their leadership and consideration of this bill that has been developed by a broad and diverse coalition of organizations. Currently, the transportation sector represents the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in Minnesota accounting for about one quarter of the total GHGs in the state. Progress in reducing emissions from the sector have leveled off since 2016 and have only decreased seven percent since 2005¹. This bill provides a key opportunity to help our state get back on track to meeting its GHG reduction goals while unleashing new economic development opportunities throughout Greater Minnesota with the development and deployment of less carbon intensive technologies and fuels.

According to our 2021 Clean Jobs Midwest – Minnesota report², job growth in advanced transportation was our state's fastest-growing clean energy sector employing more than 3,200 Minnesotans. Jobs associated with electric vehicles grew over seven percent to nearly 1,000 jobs. HF 2083 will help accelerate the growth of these family-sustaining jobs and enhance our state's attractiveness to compete for private sector investment as the world speeds towards a low and zero-carbon future.

Thank you again for your leadership and we ask for your support in passing this important bill. Questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

George Damian

Director of Government Affairs

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¹ Greenhouse gas emissions inventory 2005 – 2018. https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/lraq-1sy21.pdf

² 2021 Clean Jobs Midwest – MN report. https://www.cleanenergyeconomymn.org/clean-jobs-midwest