

100%

100% Campaign
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Dear Chair Koegel and Members of the Committee,

We are writing in support of Rep. Koegel's House Files 2405 and 2406.

Minnesotans are already feeling the effects of climate change. Communities across our state have work to do to prepare our state's infrastructure for the climate changes that are to come.

Fortunately, the federal government has stepped up by passing major federal investments to help address climate change and build resilience. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Inflation Reduction Act and CHIPS Act will help Minnesota communities by increasing the infrastructure investments needed to better prepare us for climate change. This is great for Minnesotans.

In order to best take advantage of these federal funds, Minnesota needs to ramp up its ability to receive and put this federal investment to good use. House Files 2405 and 2406 will help us do so.

We support HF 2405 because it will help create a more holistic understanding of what is needed for resilient infrastructure in Minnesota. It will connect key government entities doing this work. Minnesota communities are already taking steps to build resilience in the face of a changing climate, but we do not yet have an approach that connects across state government and levels of government in Minnesota in a fully coordinated way. HF 2405 will help address this gap. In doing so, HF 2405 will help Minnesota communities and state government understand how to most effectively put federal funds to good use in the state building more resilient infrastructure.

HF 2406 funds a coordinator and support staff for federal funds at Minnesota Management and Budget. **With the federal government standing up multiple programs to invest in states, the states with the staff and systems to apply for, receive, and deploy these funds will maximize the benefits of federal infrastructure investments.** Investing in staff to coordinate federal investment will pay dividends in Minnesota receiving more and better-focused federal funds. HF 2406 makes just this kind of smart investment. We support it.

Please support House Files 2405 and 2406.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vautrin

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