

100%

100% Campaign
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April 5, 2022

Chair Long and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our strong support for the thoughtful, comprehensive approach that the Committee's omnibus bill, as amended by the HF3337DE2, takes to addressing Minnesota's growing climate, energy, and equity needs.

We all have a role to play in transitioning our state to an equitable clean energy future. This bill provides more Minnesotans with the tools we need to play those roles. Homeowners, drivers, transit riders, Minnesota businesses, students, construction workers, and local elected officials would all be supported by provisions in this bill. **From the East Side of Saint Paul to East Grand Forks, our transition to a clean energy economy is an opportunity for all of us.**

We want to lift up six strategies the bill advances.

First, the bill would improve our **buildings** in four key ways:

- It expands Minnesota's successful Weatherization Assistance Program, a way to improve the homes of thousands of low-income families in every corner of the state. - \$30m in FY 23, \$15m in FY 24 & FY 25 on 2.26-4.2; 15.5-17.2.
- It supports homeowners who are upgrading their electric panels, a cost prohibitive improvement for many families. - \$2.276m in FY 23 (GF) on 4.3-4.9; \$1m in FY 23 (RDA) on 11.22-11.30; 121.23-124.29.
- It creates an Energy Benchmarking program for large commercial buildings. This is a way to reduce costs and lower emissions at the places where many Minnesotans live and work. - \$531k in FY 23 (GF) on 9.13-9.19; \$531k (RDA) in FY 24, \$431 in FY25 on 13.1-13.9; 17.13-23.5.
- It allows Minnesota cities to adopt the most recent ASHRAE 90.1 model commercial energy codes. This allows cities to accelerate local progress within the existing national standards. - \$146k in FY 23 (GF) on 7.3-7.8; 23.6-24.17.

Second, the bill would continue Minnesota's transition to clean, **renewable energy** in three important ways.

- The bill continues Minnesota's commitment to leading by example, investing in solar installations on our state's public infrastructure. - \$4m in FY 23 (GF) on 1.21-2.5; \$4m in FY 23, \$2m in FY 24 & FY25 (RDA) on 14.3-14.14; 73.25-73.28.
- The bill meets the growing demand to expand Minnesota's Solar on Schools program. - \$3m in FY 23 (GF) on 7.29-7.33; 63.16-66.28.
- The bill continues our state's investment in Xcel's successful Solar Rewards program. - \$5m in FY 23 & FY 24, \$10m in FY25 (RDA) on 13.18-13.30.

Third, the bill builds on Minnesota's leadership on **vehicle electrification** in two critical ways.

It expands our system of electric vehicle charging stations by investing in new infrastructure at:

- State Parks = \$4.1m in FY 23 (GF) on 8.22-9.4; 83.22-84.22
- County Government Buildings = \$500k in FY 23 on 8.16-8.21 (GF); \$500k in FY 23 (RDA) on 13.10-13.17; 84.23-85.26
- Highway Rest Stops = \$2.1m in FY 23 (GF)
- New Commercial Buildings & Multifamily Homes = \$133k in FY 23 (GF) on 9.5-9.12.

It invests in electrifying the Metro Transit bus fleet, helping the Metropolitan Council meet its goal of making 100% of its fleet purchases be electric buses, starting in 2022.

- EV Buses = \$3m in FY 23 (RDA) on 11.31-12.5; 80.4-81.28

Fourth, the bill supports communities who are **planning for our transition**. It does this in five ways:

- The bill provides support to local governments that choose to create climate action plans. - \$3m in FY 23 (GF) on 7.15-7.22; 113.28-115.9.
- It supports the development of our state's plan to reach its Next Generation Energy Act greenhouse gas reduction goals. - \$300k in FY 23 (GF) on 5.11-5.22.
- It invests in nation-leading research at the University of Minnesota on the effects of climate impacts on our state's buildings. - \$600k in FY 23 (GF) on 5.23-7.2.
- It supports the services the U of M Extension Service provides to farmers and local elected officials who are planning for future extreme weather events. - \$1m in FY 23 (GF) on 4.10-5.10.
- It provides grants to implement the recommendations of our Energy Transition Office. This will make a tangible difference in the lives of workers and residents in communities that currently host power plants that use coal, nuclear energy, or natural gas. - \$2m in FY 23 (GF) on 7.9-7.14; 90.13-90.23; 110.25-111.5.

Fifth, the bill invests in training the **clean energy workforce** that Minnesota needs through an innovative new program focused on workers who are Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) and who are new to the related industries. - \$500k in FY 23 (GF) on 2.6-2.25.

Sixth, the bill provides \$20m in **matching funds** for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This is a must-do item that ensures we maximize our state's opportunities with the recently passed federal law. - \$10m in FY 23 (GF) on 8.1-8.8; \$10m in FY 23 (RDA) on 14.15-14.24; 120.1-121.22.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



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