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Minnesota Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee 1150 Minnesota Senate Building 95 University Ave W Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Port and Committee Members,

Fresh Energy is a 30-year-old nonpartisan, not-for-profit clean energy advocacy organization based in Saint Paul, Minnesota. We work to shape and drive bold policy solutions to achieve equitable carbon-neutral economies, and work with partners across sectors to achieve this goal.

Fresh Energy strongly supports Senator Pappas' Senate File 1287 A1 amendment to fund the continuing operations of Community Stabilization Project. Community Stabilization Project (CSP) is an anchor partner in our work to advance housing and energy policies that reduce the cost of energy bills for under-resourced households, particularly renters and multifamily residents, and increase the health and safety of residences through energy efficiency and weatherization. CSP has served for many years as our co-lead for the Minnesota chapter of the Energy Efficiency for All initiative, helping to shape in recent years how that national organization funds the organizations doing the work, and providing valuable insight and thought leadership in how our state chapter organizes its strategic vision.

CSP has been a persistent voice in advocating for community input and outreach on issues of clean energy, especially on building more inclusive spaces for communities to influence decision-making that impacts them most, such as utility energy efficiency programs geared towards underresourced customers. Beyond housing and energy, CSP is a crucial leader in raising equity to the forefront of conversations with advocates and decisionmakers, ensuring it is more than a checklist item and instead imbued throughout the process of building programs and designing policy regarding housing and clean energy.

For all these reasons, Fresh Energy supports Senate File 1287 and its amendment, and urge its swift passage.

Sincerely,

Anjali Bains Lead Director, Energy Access and Equity Bains@fresh-energy.org