

March 6, 2023

House Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee
10 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chair Nelson and members of the committee,

As environmental and community leaders in Minnesota we are writing today to stand in solidarity with working people and urge you to support HF 2442/SF 2476. This bill will protect workers' fundamental right to organize by putting a stop to mandatory, closed-door meetings during work hours where workers are threatened and harassed about their union support.

Currently, workers can be coerced to go to these meetings. They can be disciplined or fired if they don't attend. HF 2442/SF 2476 will put a stop to that practice.

HF 2442/SF 2476 will ensure workers can exercise their right—when the subject of a meeting is about the employer's position on politics (including union organizing) or religion—to stop listening and return to work without fear of being disciplined or terminated.

Unions are vital to protecting workers AND our environment. Union workers are better trained to handle hazardous chemicals and situations and, more importantly, able to speak up about dangers to themselves, their co-workers, surrounding communities, and the environment without fear that blowing the whistle will cost them their job because their union has their back.

Mandatory closed-door meetings where companies force workers to listen to their position on union organizing, politics, and/or religion have no place in our state. We urge you to stand up for workers and support HF 2442/SF 2476.

Sincerely,

BlueGreen Alliance
Centro De Trabajadores Unidos En La Lucha (CTUL)
Clean Water Action
Jewish Community Action
Minnesota DFL
Minnesota Environmental Justice Table
Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light
OutFront Minnesota
Sierra Club North Star Chapter
TakeAction MN