

Dear Chairperson Stephenson and Members of the Commerce, Finance & Policy Committee,

I've been working for five years with a free drop-off organics recycling program that welcomes residents from any city in the Mankato area.

Over time we have taken hundreds of questions from residents and businesses who want to purchase the right bags or compostable service ware to participate in our program but are baffled about what to buy. The result is often a business that says we don't have time to investigate every product claim to see if it is truly compostable and residents feeling like they need a degree in environmental sustainability to do responsible organics recycling.

In short, people want to do the right thing but we have to make it easy for them. To that end I urge you to include and pass bill HF1165 in this legislative session. With certified product labeling you will clarify the confusion and reduce the compost contamination that threatens the success of a very effective way to reduce Minnesota's carbon footprint.

Sincerely,

Betty Winkworth
Mankato Area Zero Waste