

100%

100% Campaign
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February 27, 2023

Chair Acomb and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our support for Representative Lucy Rehm's House File 1983, a bill to create a statewide goal to decarbonize Minnesota's existing buildings 50% by 2035.

Minnesota is positioned to be a national leader on accelerating our transition to a more equitable and clean energy future. This bill advances that objective in three ways.

First, it covers existing residential and commercial buildings. Minnesota's building codes and SB 2030 standards help move our new buildings toward net-zero carbon emissions. We need something similar for existing buildings. House File 1983 is one important way to do that.

Second, House File sets a direction for meeting the goal, but does not prescribe a single way to do it. The bill encourages using the most effective current energy-saving incentive programs, evaluated by participation and efficacy, and developing and implementing new programs, prioritizing solutions that achieve the highest overall carbon reduction. This language encourages the use of best practices for building decarbonization.

Finally, Minnesotans support setting achievable goals to decarbonize Minnesota's buildings. For example, a January 2023 poll by Data For Progress found that "sixty percent of voters also support requiring new buildings in Minnesota to have zero emissions by 2036." We believe that, if asked, most Minnesotans would also support setting a goal to improve existing buildings.

House File 1983 is an important way to set a direction for Minnesota, one that Minnesotans support, one that would accelerate our clean energy transition. Please support House File 1983.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vautrin

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