



International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers Local 10

1681 East Cope Avenue Suite A
Maplewood, MN 55109
Phone: 651-770-2388 | Fax: 651-770-8539
Website: www.smw10.org

House Ways and Means Committee
Attn: The Honorable Liz Olson, Chair
479 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Olson and members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of over 5,000 hardworking Minnesotans, Sheet Metal Workers Local 10 writes in support of HF1656 (Acomb) to assist Minnesota entities seeking grants for energy projects under the federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Local 10 members endeavor every day to build our communities' infrastructure. From energy efficiency and historic preservation of buildings to healthy indoor air quality and fire safety, our members play a skilled, important role in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings of all shapes and sizes.

As we talk with our local, private, and nonprofit partners in the energy space, we hear many concerns about the lack of sophisticated grant-writing staff or reporting infrastructure that is so important in assembling a compelling application and providing the transparency required of public dollars. The flexibility that a state competitiveness fund would provide could be used to fill these gaps and strongly position Minnesota projects to be success in a race for this one-in-a-generation type funding.

Through the collective work of these energy partners and our state's skilled and trained workforce, Minnesota stands to leverage these federal dollars in ways that will build on current innovation, create the jobs of the future, and move the needle on climate change. We appreciate the author's commitment to this work in developing legislation that accomplishes our common goal of creating a robust, flexible state competitiveness fund that will assist Minnesota projects in maximizing the opportunities created by IRA and IIJA funds.

Sheet Metal Workers Local 10 encourages your support of HF1656.

Sincerely,

Matt Fairbanks
Business Manager
Sheet Metal Workers Local 10

cc: Representative Patty Acomb

