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> March 28, 2023 Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Acomb and the Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Climate and Energy Omnibus bill. The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing science-based policy solutions. UCS has more than 500,000 supporters, including over 6,400 in Minnesota.

We strongly encourage you to support the following climate and energy priorities in your bill:

- Support HF 2502 (Hanson), the Electric School Bus Deployment Program .
- Support HF 2336 (Greenman), the Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority •
- Support HF 413 (Stephenson), State Fleet and State EV rebates •
- Support HF 1656 (Acomb), the Minnesota State Competitiveness Fund

As the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report concluded, we are currently on a trajectory to exceed 1.5° C in global average temperature increase above pre-industrial levels within the next 10 to 15 years. Even at about 1.1°C now, we are already in a dangerous and deeply inequitable climate crisis. Which only reaffirms, with greater urgency, what we must do to address climate change: phase down fossil fuels sharply and quickly while transitioning to clean energy, make deep cuts in heat-trapping emissions, and rapidly shore up resilience to worsening climate impacts.

Minnesota can do its part to address global warming pollution by passing common sense clean energy and transportation legislation to help achieve its emission reduction goals and display the ambitious climate leadership that Minnesotans are calling for.

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Thank you for your consideration of these comments and for supporting a clean, equitable energy future for all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

James Higner

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