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Sensible policies, safer communities.

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Representative Mike Sundin, Chair  
Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee  
417 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: House File 2996  
Industrial hemp extract food additives authorized

Dear Chair Sudin and Members of the Agriculture Committee,

I write today on behalf of Sensible Change Minnesota, in support of House File 2996. Sensible Change Minnesota is a non-profit that believes our communities are safer when we create sensible drug policies. We have focused much of our efforts over the past four years on improving the medical cannabis program but recognize the need for access to hemp products and ensuring their safety for consumers.

We appreciate your attention to this important legislation. Consumers are using these products right now, and it is important that (1) the product is safe for consumers via batch testing, quality controls, and transparent labeling, and (2) Minnesota businesses are not disadvantaged by incomplete or ambiguous state laws. It is our understanding that hemp product producers and retailers currently experience uncertainty and face cease and desist orders for products they believed were legal. Consumers have shared with us that by taking these products off the shelves in Minnesota, they have to resort to purchasing from less trusted sources, and they support further regulation of Minnesota produced hemp products.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on this bill, and support advancement of it through the legislative process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maren Schroeder", written in a cursive style.

Maren Schroeder  
Policy Director, Sensible Change Minnesota