

Re: House File 7 and Senate File 4

My name is Emily Wallace, and I live in St Anthony Village, MN.

I've lived in Minnesota for 10 years, and it really feels like home to me. I had a child last year, after YEARS of contemplating if I should do so. I was so hesitant because the climate crisis made me wonder if bringing a child into the world was an ethical thing to do. Would I be dooming my child to a bleak future, knowing what I know about the climate crisis and its impacts? I decided to be hopeful, and I'm glad I made that decision. My daughter turns 1 this month, and she is an absolute joy. I cannot imagine my life without her.

A transition to 100% clean energy (SF4 and HF7) in our state provides me with immense optimism and hope for the future. As a mother, I worry about whether or not my daughter will be able to enjoy clean air and water, not to mention the natural beauty of our state. An equitable transition to clean energy would ensure that my daughter and her friends and children all across the state could have access to clean energy jobs and a future that is bright and healthy. A clean energy economy is the future, it will create dignified jobs that will pay well. I want that for people NOW, and I want it for my daughter's future as well.

If we don't make a commitment to transitioning to clean energy now, we risk damage from massive weather events, like storms, floods, heat waves, wildfires, and from polluted air and water. A transition to a clean energy economy will lessen the financial impacts that we as a state will have to face as the climate crisis worsens. We also would be letting fossil fuel companies win, and we cannot do that. They knew 40 years ago about the climate crisis, and continued to choose short term profit. What kind of legacy is that to leave to our children and grandchildren?

Thank you for your time.