



408 Saint Peter Street, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55102

PHONE 651 225 0878

EMAIL info@fresh-energy.org

WEBSITE fresh-energy.org

March 15, 2023

Minnesota House of Representatives Workforce Development Finance and Policy
557 Minnesota State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Xiong and Committee Members,

Fresh Energy is a 30-year-old, Minnesota-based nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization. We work to shape and drive bold policy solutions to achieve equitable carbon-neutral economies. Fresh Energy supports HF 1939 (Sencer-Mura) establishing the Clean Economy Equitable Workforce Grant Program to accelerate many potential careers in the clean energy sector.

We strongly support intentional measures to promote jobs in direct support for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), women, LGBTQ+, and youth workers to enter and stay in the fields of construction, clean energy and energy efficiency. In order to reach a just transition to a clean energy economy and healthier climate, all Minnesotans must have the opportunity to learn and develop skills. We will be most successful when the clean energy workforce is made up of Minnesotans from all walks of life. Financial support from the state would assist in more intentional and direct outreach to more communities. This bill is an opportunity for Minnesota to be a leader in creating an equitable and accessible workforce while implementing the state's climate, economic and racial equity goals as outlined in [Minnesota's Climate Action Framework](#).

The Clean Economy Equitable Workforce Grant proposes a significant investment in Minnesota's current and future economy, one that is sustained by a just and healthy climate. We encourage members to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Janiece Watts
Director of Culture and Partnerships
Fresh Energy
watts@fresh-energy.org