

Dear Mr. Strohmeier,

On behalf of the Dakota County Board of Commissioners, I am writing for two reasons.

First, thank you to members and staff for all you are doing during these challenging times. We deeply appreciate your service and commitment.

Second, I am requesting the committee's support for the A7 Amendment to HF3657, specifically the language that stands up for groundwater rights. As yesterday's U.S. Supreme Court decision in *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* demonstrated, groundwater rights are already under attack elsewhere by those seeking to create and exploit loopholes in longstanding law. Now more than ever, we must do all we can to ensure Minnesota's groundwater rights are thoroughly protected, which is precisely what the A7 will do. We would appreciate your support for the A7 Amendment.

Take care.

Joe Atkins
Chair,
Dakota County Legislative Advisory Workgroup