

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority | Saint Paul Port Authority Red Wing Port Authority | Port Authority of Winona

April 13, 2021

Representative Fue Lee Chair, House Capital Investment Committee 485 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 rep.fue.lee@house.mn jenny.nash@house.mn

Re: Minnesota Ports Association

Dear Chairman Lee:

The Minnesota Ports Association, consisting of the Port Authorities of Duluth, St. Paul, Red Wing and Winona, are grateful for the inclusion of \$4 million for the Port Development Assistance Program in the Omnibus House Capital Investment Bill. Minnesota's Ports provide very important access to national and international markets for a variety of commodities from several economic sectors of the state's economy.

We handle construction materials, farm products, fertilizers, other bulk commodities, and construction materials as well as large and oversized equipment such as wind turbines, towers and blades.

Much of the Port infrastructure in the state is past its original useful life and in need of repair or replacement. Any funds that we receive from the state are put to good use to ensure that this means of efficient and low-cost transportation is available to our state economy.

Thank you for your consideration of Ports infrastructure needs. If you have any questions regarding any project undertaken by our public Ports, please contact Kevin Walli or Sam Richie at the Fryberger Law Firm. They can be reached at (651) 208-8162 (Kevin's cell) or (218) 301-9758 (Sam's cell) or by e-mail at <a href="kwalli@fryberger.com">kwalli@fryberger.com</a> or <a href="srichie@fryberger.com">srichie@fryberger.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Deborah DeLuca

President, Minnesota Ports Association

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Executive Director, Duluth Seaway Port Authority