



February 17, 2025

Dear Members of the House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee,

**On behalf of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, representing 6,300 employers and their more than 500,000 employees across the state, I am writing to share our support for efforts, like HF 189 (Zelevnikar), to increase electric vehicles' contribution to the maintenance and upkeep of the state's transportation infrastructure.**

Minnesota businesses depend upon a safe, reliable, efficient, and multimodal transportation system to get their goods to market and their employees, customers, and input materials to their door. As the transportation industry continues to move toward a more fuel efficient vehicle fleet, it is important that the state take steps to ensure sufficient resources exist to maintain and improve the state's roads and bridges.

HF 189, which would increase the registration fee for electric vehicles, would help to ensure that owners of electric vehicles are contributing to the maintenance and upkeep of our transportation system in a way that is commensurate with what drivers of internal combustion engine vehicles contribute through the gas tax. We believe it is important to begin this work now, while the size of the EV fleet in Minnesota is still relatively small. Whether this is done through an increase in the EV registration fee (like HF 189), some sort of mileage based user fee, or through a mechanism to add a user fee to the electricity used to charge an EV, what is most important is that the state put some mechanism in place in the near term. Current forecasts indicate that the EV fleet will only continue to grow. And, as it does, it will only become more difficult to put a meaningful funding mechanism in place to backfill projected declines in the gas tax.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bentley Graves", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Bentley Graves

Director, Health Care & Transportation Policy

380 St. Peter Street, Suite 1050, St. Paul, MN 55102  
[www.mnchamber.com](http://www.mnchamber.com)