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March 10, 2026

RE: Support for HF3688 (Sexton)

Co-Chair Acomb, Co-Chair Swedzinski and Members of the Minnesota House Energy Finance and Policy Committee,

Great River Energy is a not-for-profit wholesale electric power cooperative which provides electricity to approximately 1.7 million people through its 26 member-owner cooperatives and customers. Together we serve two-thirds of Minnesota geographically and parts of Wisconsin. Every day, Great River Energy and our member-owners work together to provide reliable, affordable and sustainable energy. We are guided by seven cooperative principles: open and voluntary membership; democratic member control; members' economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

Great River Energy's member-owners work with income-qualified households to identify energy savings opportunities in partnership with weatherization and community action agencies across the state. Cooperatives partner with local CAP agencies, schools, food shelves and non-profit organizations to develop and implement income-qualified programs. New innovations in electrified technologies such as heat pumps, heat pump water heaters and electric vehicles can lower the costs that are borne by members with high energy burdens, particularly when they are coupled with demand response program participation.

The ability to include these types of offerings in income-qualified programs will increase the tools available to Great River Energy's member-owners to identify and share the best energy solutions for the households they serve. Efficient fuel switching measures have been incorporated into the Energy Conservation and Optimization framework and their inclusion for income qualified programs is a logical next step.

We support HF3688 and believe it will offer new opportunities for member-consumers to unlock energy savings and efficiencies associated with modern electrical devices. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffrey Haase  
Director, Member Services