100%

100% Campaign 705 Raymond Ave. - Suite 100 Saint Paul, MN 55114 www.100percentmn.org

March 28, 2022

Chair Bernardy and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our support for Rep. Heather Keeler's House File 4539, a bill to create a Green Training Program at the University of Minnesota.

We all have a role to play in preparing for and adapting to our changing climate. As we transition how we create electricity, travel, and heat our homes, we each get to contribute in different ways. For example, we can act together as citizens or consumers or workers. House File 4639 would better equip University of Minnesota employees to play the roles they are uniquely positioned to play.

Re. Keeler's bill would establish a Green Training Program at the University of Minnesota, then provide oversight and funding for that program. The program would engage at least twenty-five kinds of frontline workers in planning and training those workers in important sustainability measures like how to reduce energy use and how to reduce and properly sort solid waste.

This bill is a model of how large institutions can work collaboratively with all their employees to create mission-oriented, solutions-focused approaches to tackling the climate change challenge we all share.

The University system is not only a place where we educate Minnesotans and create new knowledge. Its campuses have significant physical infrastructure, comparable in many ways to a municipality. Sustainability practices matter at the U of M. The University is poised to provide leadership that surrounding institutions and communities will follow.

Please support House File 4539.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Chris Conry

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