JANETTE DEAN

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House Committee on Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Minnesota House of Representatives 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Letter of Support for <u>HF772</u> (Kraft) - State Building Code; energy code for new commercial building adoption process modified.

Dear Chair Patty Acomb, Vice Chair Larry Kraft & Committee Members:

Our state as well as many others need to reduce energy usage in commercial buildings by increasing energy efficiency standards as high and as soon as possible.

Although I could not be happier that a 100% Clean Energy Bill (<u>House File 7</u>) for the State of Minnesota passed the Minnesota House of Representatives last week and should pass the Senate as well soon as <u>Senate File 4</u>, *in addition to the type of energy used in Minnesota, the amount of energy used in Minnesota matters as well.*

Some of those reasons are emphasized by our own U.S. Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy on their "Energy Efficiency" page (see: https://www.energy.gov/eere/energy-efficiency) including:

- "Energy efficiency is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to combat climate change, reduce energy costs for consumers, and improve the competitiveness of U.S. businesses. Energy efficiency is also a vital component in achieving net-zero emissions of carbon dioxide through decarbonization."
- "Energy-efficient buildings cost less to heat, cool, and operate, while industry and manufacturing plants can make products at lower cost."
- "Energy-efficiency programs improve community resilience and address energy equity by bringing efficient, cost-effective technologies and infrastructure to underserved communities, including communities of color."
- "Energy-efficient homes and buildings are also better equipped to switch to renewable energy, which does not produce harmful emissions."
- "Energy-efficiency improvements reduce the amount of electricity on the grid at one time, known as load, minimizing congestion and stress on the U.S. electric grid. Less load prevents power disruptions."

Please pass HF772 so that more energy efficiency is required in commercial buildings in Minnesota and will therefore be much more highly prioritized.

Thank you,

Janette Dean

La Crescent High School Graduate; B.A. Political Science & Sociology – UNR / USC Alumna Sierra Club Wilderness Guardian member; MN350 Action member; Houston County DFL member