

100%

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

March 27, 2022

Chair Hansen and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our support for two bills before the committee on Tuesday, March 29, 2022: Rep. Athena Hollins' House File 2661 and Rep. Frank Hornstein's House File 2211.

Both bills play important roles in increasing the availability of waste diversion programs, like recycling and composting. **Transitioning toward zero-waste has multiple environmental, health, and economic benefits across the state.** By preventing landfilling and waste incineration, these programs would protect our land and groundwater, keep our air clean from incinerated particulate matter, and create good-paying careers in waste management. Programs like these meet multiple bottom lines for Minnesotans.

Rep. Athena Hollins' bill, HF 2661, would create a competitive grant program for nonprofits and governments to pursue zero-waste projects. **The bill would encourage solutions to some of our most pressing waste issues: electronics reuse and recycling, organics recycling, waste reduction market development, and consumer education.** The bill proposes \$1,500,000 in FY 2022 and again in FY 2023. This is a smart down payment for programs that could make a tangible difference for families and communities across our state.

Rep. Frank Hornstein's HF 2211 proposes another innovative program that would expand the reach of waste diversion programs to more Minnesota families. His bill would establish a competitive grant program to assist pilot projects that encourage and increase composting by residents of multifamily buildings in areas where compost is not collected at curbside. **This would help close a critical gap in composting services, providing a boost for renters and condominium owners who currently cannot participate.**

We all have a role to play in creating a cleaner, more equitable future in Minnesota. Both of these bills would increase the number of Minnesotans who can participate, in a daily way, in making that future real.

Please support House File 2661 and House File 2211.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Chris Conry

Campaign Director
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