

March 1, 2023

Minnesota House of Representatives
Sustainable Infrastructure Committee
State Office Building, Rm 10
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: House File 1346, Support for EV Infrastructure Program Authorization

Dear Chair Koegel, Representative Kraft, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), I write today in support of HF1346 to authorize a statewide electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure program in order to implement the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program. This bill allows Minnesota to fully maximize \$68 million of federal funding available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in order to build out a comprehensive EV charging network across the state. Federal EV infrastructure money is available to states over the next five years and requires a 20% non-federal match. We support this proposal because expanding the EV charging network in Minnesota is critical to achieving transportation electrification, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing EV charging accessibility statewide.

CEEM is an industry-led, nonpartisan, non-profit organization representing the business voice of energy efficiency and clean energy in Minnesota. We work to educate Minnesotans about the economic benefits of transitioning to a clean energy economy and are committed to delivering a 100% clean energy future where all Minnesota businesses and citizens will thrive. Our business membership is comprised of nearly 50 clean energy companies ranging from start-up businesses to Fortune 100 and 500 corporations that employ tens of thousands of Minnesotans across the state.

We thank Rep. Kraft for authoring this bill and Chair Koegel for hearing it in committee. This bill will empower Minnesota to leverage public-private partnerships and resources to be involved in the EV infrastructure deployment process. The NEVI Program represents an unprecedented opportunity to advance the EV industry, expand the fast-charging EV network statewide, and is critical to easing range anxiety, which is key to accelerating the broader adoption of electric vehicles. All of this will help fulfill Clean Transportation goals detailed in Minnesota's Climate Action Framework.

In 2021, advanced transportation jobs were the fastest growing clean energy jobs sector at 23% growth, among almost 58,000 clean energy jobs in Minnesota.¹ Passing HF1346 will continue to boost Minnesota's economy, help our state achieve its goals set out in the Climate Action Framework, and expand EV infrastructure statewide.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our support for this bill. We look forward to its passage. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



George Damian
Director of Government Affairs
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¹ 2022 Clean Jobs Midwest Report: <https://www.cleanenergyeconomymn.org/clean-jobs-midwest>