

Date: January 10, 2023

To: Minnesota House of Representatives, Environmental & Natural Resources Finance and Policy
(email: peter.strohmeier@house.mn.gov)

RE: Support for **HF207 (Tabke) Lawns to legumes grant program funding provided, and money appropriated.**

From: Howard and Lynne Markus

We are both L2L Mentors and have been Washington County Master Gardeners since 1991. Our primary focus has been created an urban oasis for our bees, birds, and butterflies, who are all suffering through very serious population declines. The L2L Program helps fill a very important niche in further encouraging additional oases. In our L2L mentoring, we have met east Metro gardeners who used the L2L grant and educational incentives to either create their first pollinator garden or create a special pollinator garden. And each grantee we have met has been very proud to add clean pollinator habitat to their neighborhood and they brag that they are doing what their can to encourage their neighbors to do the same. The L2L program creates great ambassadors for pollinator gardening.

We encourage the passage of HF207; please contact us if you have any questions.

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