



May 12, 2022

Dear Chair Rosen, Senator Ruud and Committee members,

On behalf of the 70,000 thousand building trades professionals in Minnesota, we express our strong support for SF4131, as amended to include constitutionally dedicated funding for Public Facilities Authority (PFA) grants. We were heartened to see a good bill for the environment get even better. PFA provides a trusted framework to efficiently fund necessary public infrastructure projects around state, many of which put our members to work fixing outdated wastewater facilities. Dedicated funding for PFA is a smart use for 50% of the State Lottery proceeds, which currently go to the state's general fund against the original intent of the lottery.

There is no bill of its size better for the environment and living wage jobs in Minnesota. Beyond important projects funded by the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Recourses (LCCMR), the subject of the underlying bill, significant new PFA funding presents an opportunity to substantially improve water quality across Minnesota. PFA provides local governments access to capital necessary to improve wastewater infrastructure. Currently PFA is chronically underfunded; and this bill addresses that problem.

Our members stand ready to build the infrastructure to improve Minnesota's precious environment. We value the opportunity to join a broad coalition of advocates and legislators to support an effort to improve Minnesota's environment for generations to come.

We thank members for considering this legislation. This bill is good for Minnesota, and we ask for your support.

Sincerely,

Tom Dicklich
Executive Director
MN State Building Trades Council

Barry Davies
Business Manager
Ironworkers Local #512

David Ybarra
President
MN Pipetrades Association

Joel Smith
President and
Business Manager
LIUNA Minnesota and
North Dakota

Jason George
Business Manager
Operating Engineers
Local #49

Adam Duininck
Director of Government
North Central States
Regional Council of North
Carpenters