

Edgar Rudberg, Ph.D ● St. Paul, MN 55104 ● 952-212-6576 ● ed@cd3systems.com

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Senator Pappas 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2113 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Pappas,

This letter is in support of SF 1421 "State-owned public water access facilities bond issue and appropriation." The Minnesota boating industry adds over \$5.5 billion per year to Minnesota's economy and supports over 28,000 jobs. However, boat access crumbling infrastructure puts at risk not only Minnesota's boating heritage and economy, but also our fragile lake ecosystems.

The State Organization for Boating Access, along witht the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, identifies boat ramp improvements as a key piece to stopping the spread of aquatic invasive species. Investing in these improvements protects lake ecosystems while simultaneously preventing the crippling economic losses caused by aquatic invasive species.

The time to invest in Minnesota's boating infrastructure is now.

Respectfully,

Edgar Rudberg, Ph.D.

CEO, CD3 General Benefit Corporation