



Association of Minnesota Counties

125 Charles Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55103-2108 | www.mncounties.org

February 14, 2023

Senator Nick Frentz
Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate Committee
3109 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act, State Funding

Dear Chair Frentz and Committee Members:

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), a membership-based organization representing all 87 Minnesota counties, appreciates the opportunity to offer our support of the legislation being heard today to create a Minnesota State Competitiveness Fund to supply state matching grants for federal investments in clean energy and the environment.

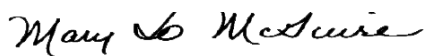
Federal funding is being made available through the U.S. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). These laws make investments in areas related to energy generation and supply, clean manufacturing, electrification of commercial and residential housing, addressing air pollution, clean transportation, agriculture and rural affairs and resiliency.

Among our numerous responsibilities, environmental stewardship is a primary function of county governments. This includes revitalizing contaminated sites to ensure safe and equitable neighborhoods, providing waste and recycling services to minimize pollution and implementing land use and energy policies to promote sustainable communities.

We appreciate this effort to supply state matching funds for projects that will draw more federal dollars into Minnesota through IIJA and IRA programs. Intergovernmental and cross-sector collaboration between federal, state and local partners is critical to ensuring the development and deployment of accessible and affordable clean energy and environmental protection.

AMC appreciates the Legislature's efforts to collaborate across government and private sector entities to bring these environmental projects to fruition in Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Mary Jo McGuire, Ramsey County Commissioner
President, Association of Minnesota Counties