



A Community Action nonprofit agency, established in 1966, serving southeastern Minnesota.
Helping people. Changing lives.

204 South Elm Street, PO Box 549 | Rushford, MN 55971-0549

P: 507-864-7741 | F: 507-864-2440

www.semcac.org | semcac@semcac.org

Text Semcac to 22828 for e-news | Like & Follow @Semcac on social media.

February 24, 2023

Subject: Support for SF 1783

Dear Chair Frentz and members of the Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Committee,

My name is Melissa Feine on behalf of Semcac, a non-profit, Community Action Agency located in southeast Minnesota. I write today in support of SF 1783, an appropriation for the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs).

My organization empowers people and advocates for people to enhance their self-sufficiency by maximizing community resources. Semcac provides services in Head Start, Transportation, Weatherization, Energy Assistance, Senior Services, Housing and a Clinic. I have been in the Weatherization program for 16 ½ years and just recently became the Director of the Energy Assistance, Weatherization & Housing programs.

I find the CERTs resources and people valuable to our work. CERTs works statewide to equip people with resources to move energy efficiency and renewable energy projects forward. We have received support from CERTs to provide interpretation and translation services for households applying for the Energy Assistance and Weatherization Programs. We had informational posters, program forms used to determine program eligibility and a notice on our website translated into 5 different languages to assist us in outreach efforts to underserved households.

There are ever more people and communities excited about and interested in advancing clean energy. CERTs has a proven track record of working in and with communities to advance their own clean energy goals. This additional funding will allow CERTs to staff up regional capacity around the State and ensure that the team is fully equipped to provide the necessary resources and programming to help communities advance their clean energy goals.

We encourage you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Melissa Feine

Melissa Feine
Energy & Housing Services Director

CC: Alex Will

Dodge	Fillmore	Freeborn	Houston	Mower	Steele	Winona
634-4350	765-2761	373-1329	725-3677	433-5889	451-7134	452-8396

Limited services provided in Goodhue, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha & Waseca Counties.

Use area code 507 for all Semcac phone numbers.

Please remember Semcac in your financial and estate planning. | Equal opportunity employer.

