



Subject: Letter of Support for SF 1783

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

My name is Jason Ludwigson and on behalf of the City of La Crescent I write today in support of SF 1783, an appropriation for the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs).

La Crescent has been a leader in the Minnesota GreenSteps cities program. We have been recognized for achievements in the SolSmart program from the US Department of Energy, advanced to a Level 4 GreenStep city, and have been recognized as a Tree City and Bird City USA city.

We find the CERTs resources and people invaluable to our sustainability work. CERTs works statewide to equip people with resources to move energy efficiency and renewable energy projects forward. We have worked with CERTs in for public education and outreach efforts and local energy projects. CERTs helped support the installation of the first public Level 2 EV charger in Southeastern Minnesota.

The passing of the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022 has expanded opportunities for communities like La Crescent to advance clean energy goals. CERTs staff have presented invaluable information to the city and the GreenSteps committee about the IRA. CERTs, with its proven track record of working in and with communities to advance their own clean energy goals, is a great resource for advancing community clean energy goals across the state. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Ludwigson".