

March 6, 2023

Minnesota Senate
Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate
Minnesota Senate Building, Rm 1150
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Senate File 2156, Buy-Clean Buy Fair Minnesota Act

Dear Chair Frentz, Senator Murphy, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), I write today supporting Senate File 2156, the Buy Clean Buy Fair Minnesota Act. This legislation will allow Minnesota to lead by example in procuring products that have significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) impacts than traditional building materials while also helping to support the market for sustainable building materials.

CEEM is an industry-led, nonpartisan, non-profit organization representing the business voice of energy efficiency and clean energy in Minnesota. We work to educate Minnesotans about the economic benefits of transitioning to a clean energy economy and are committed to delivering a 100% clean energy future where all Minnesota businesses and citizens will thrive. Our business membership is comprised of nearly 50 clean energy companies ranging from start-up businesses to Fortune 100 and 500 corporations that employ tens of thousands of Minnesotans across the state.

Unprecedented federal investment in infrastructure and the clean energy economy along with a renewed focus on domestic and thoughtful sourcing of materials will further drive market adoption of sustainable materials that reduce our climate impact. Creating standards, product lists, and reports will empower public and private sector developers to have the information they need to make informed choices on what products they use in construction projects.

We appreciate the thoughtful creation of an environmental standards procurement task force to look at issues of implementation. Engaging with the affected industries as well as labor and environmental advocates is key to make sure all voices are heard. Bringing together experts to study similar programs in other states and countries will help to ensure this program's success and move Minnesota towards a clean economy future.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our thoughts on this proposal. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



George Damian
Director of Government Affairs
gdamian@cleanenergyeconomymn.org