

## **Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association**

We Move Minnesota Solar + Storage Forward

## March 15, 2023

To: Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate

Re: Solar for Schools

Dear Senators,

MnSEIA strongly supports **SF 2689** and **SF 2690**, to update and fund Minnesota's Solar for Schools program.

Energy costs for powering public school campuses are the second-highest cost for school districts in Minnesota after payroll. Using on-site solar to reduce energy costs will save districts hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. This is why the existing Solar for Schools program has been so popular and successful.

Additionally, Solar for Schools provides excellent STEM learning opportunities, invigorates student interest in clean energy jobs, and demonstrates solar energy's power to parents and the community.

Overall, MnSEIA supports the expansion of the Solar for Schools program to reach more schools and students.

MnSEIA is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit trade association with over 140 member organizations, which employ roughly 5,000 Minnesotans involved in solar energy, energy storage, and ancillary services.

Sincerely,

Logan O'Grady

**Executive Director**