Minnesota SF 2688 is a bill that proposes to remove certain restrictions on the location of solar gardens in the state. Specifically, the bill would remove a provision that requires solar gardens to be located within the same county or contiguous counties as the utility that will purchase the electricity generated by the solar garden.

There are several reasons why I support removing this restriction on solar garden location in Minnesota:

- 1. Increased access to renewable energy: Removing the location restrictions on solar gardens could make it easier for communities across Minnesota to access clean, renewable energy. This could help to reduce the state's reliance on fossil fuels and move towards a more sustainable energy system.
- 2. Greater economic benefits: Solar gardens can provide economic benefits to local communities by creating jobs, generating revenue for landowners, and contributing to the tax base. Removing location restrictions could make it easier for more communities to benefit from these economic opportunities.
- 3. Reduced energy costs: By increasing the availability of solar energy, the cost of electricity could be reduced for consumers. This could particularly benefit low-income households, who are often disproportionately impacted by high energy costs.
- 4. Environmental benefits: Solar energy is a clean, renewable source of energy that produces no greenhouse gas emissions. By increasing the availability of solar energy, Minnesota could reduce its carbon footprint and help to address the urgent issue of climate change.

Overall, removing the restriction on solar garden location in Minnesota could have numerous benefits, including increased access to renewable energy, greater economic benefits, reduced energy costs, and environmental benefits.

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