



CREATING GOOD JOBS, A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, AND A FAIR AND THRIVING ECONOMY

Minnesota Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate Committee
Minnesota Senate Building Room 1150
St. Paul, MN

Dear Chair Frentz and committee members,

The BlueGreen Alliance thanks you for the committee's hard work this session forming a robust omnibus bill.

We are excited to see that [SF 2156 \(Murphy\)](#), the Buy Clean Buy Fair Minnesota Act, is included. The appropriation would establish an Environmental Standards & Procurement Task Force to ensure that stakeholders—such as state agencies, industry, labor unions, and environmental advocates—are at the table as Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) come into play for evaluating state procurement contracts.

There is widespread buy-in from proposed task force members. The Minnesota Department of Transportation is already tracking and studying the creation of EPDs as they move towards being the industry norm and the Minnesota Department of Administration works closely with the University of Minnesota Center for Sustainable Building Research on building materials decarbonization.

Under the bill, the following things will be under the purview of the task force:

- Determining which materials will be subject to program requirements;
- Considering financial incentives to vendors for creating EPDs;
- Administering grants to vendors for the costs of creating EPDs;
- Determining which factors shall be evaluated in setting maximum greenhouse gas emissions standards; and
- Setting a schedule for standards implementation.

Additionally, a pilot program will be developed by 2024 to gather data from vendors and understand current supply levels and emissions.

We thank the committee for including \$1.4 million for the biennium in appropriations for the Buy Clean Buy Fair Minnesota Act in the Senate Energy omnibus bill.

Sincerely,
Abby Hornberger
Minnesota Policy Organizer
BlueGreen Alliance