



Minnesota Rural Electric Association



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March 28, 2023

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

The Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) represents the interests of the state's 50 rural electric cooperatives who collectively serve 1.7 million member-owners. Our member cooperatives are not-for-profit electric utility businesses that are locally owned and governed by the member-consumers they serve. We submit this letter to express our support for SF 2847.

Cooperatives are leaders in the ongoing energy transition. We are rapidly decarbonizing our generation and working with our member-owners to facilitate their adoption of distributed energy resources at their homes and businesses. We are getting there because of technology and innovation. The \$15m in grant money in this bill will enable cooperatives to continue this goal and put rural electric cooperatives in a better position to push our efforts at transforming the electrical grid forward while keeping electricity reliable and affordable. MREA also supports funding for the nuclear study, appropriations for the air source heat pump grant program, funding for weatherization, clean energy resource teams, funding for electric school buses, residential electric panel grants and electric vehicle rebates.

We thank you for your collaboration on SF 2847.

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