

125 Charles Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55103-2108 | Main Line/Switchboard: 651-224-3344, Fax: 651-224-6540 | www.mncounties.org

January 31, 2023

Senator Foung Hawj Chair, Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3231 St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF188 (Hoffman) - Report on rough fish funding provided, and money appropriated.

Dear Chair Hawj and committee members:

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), a membership-based organization representing all 87 Minnesota counties, appreciates the opportunity to offer our support of SF188 (Hoffman): Report on rough fish.

AMC supports protection of our natural resources and native wildlife. Our membership appreciates that many of our native rough fish populations provide a variety of ecological benefits and are deserving of basic protections. We support the Department of Natural Resources evaluating fish species to determine if there are rough fish species in need regulatory controls to sustain their populations in Minnesota waters.

AMC encourages the committee to support this legislation to further examine protections for native rough fish.

Sincerely,

Brian Martinson, Policy Analyst Association of Minnesota Counties