



MINNESOTA LAND TRUST

Chair Fong Hawj
Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee
95 University Ave. W.
Minnesota Senate Building 3231
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 6, 2023

Dear Chair Hawj and committee members:

Minnesota Land Trust writes to express support for SF2404, which would pose a question to Minnesota voters on whether to continue the dedication of state lottery proceeds to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Over the past 35 years, the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund has delivered a successful track record of protecting, conserving, preserving, and enhancing Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Yet, impacts from climate change and other factors are posing new challenges that threaten to unravel many of the gains made.

The Land Trust recognizes that all citizens of Minnesota have not benefitted from the impact of these resource investments. We strongly support the establishment of the Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund Community Grant Program to serve underserved and overburdened communities across the state. Despite the Trust Fund's strong history of accomplishment, the creation of this grant program brings a much-needed measure of equitability that to date has been lacking.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claire Colliander".

Claire Colliander

Interim Chief Executive Director/Executive Director