



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

RE: Clean Water Fund Appropriations in SF1682

March 17, 2023

Chair Hawj and Members of the Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee,

As the committee reviews the Clean Water Council's recommendations for the Clean Water Legacy funds, we write to highlight support for the work of and the recommendations produced by the Clean Water Council.

The Clean Water Council, made up of both citizen volunteers representing diverse stakeholders and legislators, spent the last two years gathering input from state agencies and a variety of constituencies from across the state to aid in the development of its recommendations for how the Clean Water Fund should be spent. The Council is a deliberative body who spends significant time and effort in making recommendations in line with their strategic plan, which the Council recently worked to update in 2020.

The Council, state agencies and stakeholders have identified and recommended new programs to address clean water needs. As a participant during many of the Council's meetings, The Conservancy fully supports its recommendations and the thorough process it conducted.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Herrington, Ph.D.
Freshwater Restoration Strategy Manager
The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota