

March 6, 2023

Dear Chair Murphy and Members of the Committee,

We are writing in support of Senator Pappas' Senate File 1183, a bill to provide public education about and technical assistance regarding Minnesota's capital investment process.

Our transition to a cleaner, more equitable economy creates many opportunities to improve the lives of Minnesotans. One of the most tangible and urgent is the need to improve our built environment. **Our capital investment process is one of the most powerful tools we have**, as a state, to do that. Creating more energy efficient and climate adapted buildings is smart investment in our communities, an investment that will mean cleaner air, lower costs, and safer lives for Minnesotans.

However, the capital investment process itself presents some high barriers to entry. The application and advocacy requirements can be daunting for local governments and organizations with less experience applying.

Fortunately, Senate File 1183 seeks to improve Minnesota's capital investment process by making it more inclusive. Minnesota Management and Budget is well positioned to raise awareness about and provide technical assistance for bonding, especially for communities and organizations that are newer to the process. Focusing on the nonprofits, American Indian communities, and communities of color that have traditionally not participated is a smart strategy to make sure everyone is a part of building Minnesota's future.

Please support Senate File 1183.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vantrin

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