

3/7/2023

Re: SF 843, Exempting Septic Tank Trucks from vehicle weight limitations To: Senate Chair, Scott Dibble, and the Transportation Committee

We are writing today to urge support for the proposed changes to SF843.

Fiedler Your Pumping Specialists, Inc is a Licensed Septic Maintenance Company providing wastewater pumping and septic maintenance services to residents and businesses in a 5-county area in Central Minnesota.

In our area, most of the emergent services we see are due to system freeze-ups between February and April. Historically our area has 50 to 300 customers each winter that require some type of emergency septic services related to part of the septic system freezing. When a customer's septic drainfield freezes, it can cause raw sewage to back up into the customer's home or business. Many times when a drainfield freezes, the only way to prevent sewage from backing up is to pump the tank every 2-4 weeks until the drainfield thaws in the spring. Companies like ours can not legally drive a vacuum truck to any customer living on a seasonal weight-limit road for any reason without an exemption. The proposed changes to SF843 would allow companies to utilize the appropriate equipment and provide quality septic services at any time of the year for most of their customers, regardless of their location.

Many of our customers are elderly, live on a fixed income, or do not have the means to be out of their home for any length of time, therefore we believe the changes as written provide the best possible outcome for most septic system owners living on weight restricted roads. We believe the main objectives of SF 843's proposed changes are to limit property damage and to minimize the risk of public health-related illnesses due to contact with sewage backing up.

Thank you in advance for promoting and supporting SF843. This change will ensure all of our customers can receive the same quality of services regardless of their address.

Sincerely,

Cindy Tiemann

Cindy Tiemann Maintainer / Service Provider / Type IV wastewater operator Fiedler Your Pumping Specialists, Inc office@fiedlerpumping.com