

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
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March 7, 2023

Re: Senate File # 843, Exempting septic tank trucks from vehicle weight limitations

To: Senate Chair, Scott Dibble, and the Transportation Committee

The Rice County Environmental Health Department is in support of Senate File 843, exempting septic tank pump trucks from springtime vehicle weight limitations. The reason we need this to pass is so we can service homeowners and business owners throughout the State of Minnesota in a timely manner, and so as not to cause them financial hardship through extra fees imposed by cities and counties for overweight permits.

Rice County has several commercial establishments/dwellings served by Holding Tanks, engineered septic systems and systems pending replacement dependent on frequent tank pumping to protect the health of the public and environment from negative impacts of sewage discharging to the ground surface.

Why is it that the State of Minnesota-the Land of 10,000 Lakes, is the ONLY state that does not exempt its septic tank pump trucks from vehicle weight limitations?

Thank you for considering this bill for inclusion in the Omnibus bill this legislative season.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilee DeGroot

Rice County Environmental Health Administrator