



*To unify, support, and serve
as a common voice for municipal utilities*

March 16, 2023

To: Sen. Scott Dibble, Chair
Senate Transportation Committee

CC: Members of the committee

From: Kent Sulem, Director of Government Relations and Senior Counsel
Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA)

Re: Testimony in support of SF 2591

Dear Chair Dibble and members of the committee:

MMUA, a voluntary membership association representing the 124 municipal electric utilities across the State, respectfully submits this memo to document our support for SF 2591, Senator McEwen's bill seeking to clarify the right to use State-controlled rights-of-way for new transmission lines.

Minnesota is in a period of increased electrification. Further, this movement includes an unprecedented level of reliance on renewable energy. In order to accommodate this transition, it will be necessary to install significant amounts of new transmission lines. SF 2591 ensures that State-controlled rights-of-way will be available options in which to locate the infrastructure and power lines necessary to meet this increased need for transmission.

MMUA encourages passage of SF 2591 and thanks Senator McEwen for bringing it forward.