Laborers' International Union of North America



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Dear Chair Acomb and Chair Dibble:

On behalf of the 29,000 members and family members of Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) Minnesota and North Dakota, I am writing to express our strong support for the Buy Clean and Buy Fair Minnesota Act (HF2170/SF2156), which would help facilitate improvements to collect information on the greenhouse gas emissions of construction materials and authorize the Department of Administration and Department of Transportation to incentivize use of low-emission materials on certain state-funded construction projects.

LIUNA members are proud to build and maintain our state's transportation, water, energy, and building infrastructure. We recognize the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with production of construction materials, as well as the opportunity for Minnesota industry to benefit from growing demand for low-emission materials.

Minnesota is home to some of the nation's leading building and civil construction firms, and Buy Clean and Buy Fair legislation will provide opportunities for these firms to test strategies for lowering embedded emissions through the use of building materials produced using clean energy and low-emission processes.

This will, in turn, help position Minnesota-based manufacturers and suppliers of construction materials to capture a growing market for low-emission products. Finally, the bill will create opportunities for Minnesota's skilled union workforce to learn to use new low-emission building products on the job and through the state's best-in-class registered apprenticeship programs.

We thank Representative Berg and Senator Murphy for introducing this important legislation and urge the committee's support.

Thank you for your consideration.

In Solidarity,

a. Smith

Joel Smith President and Business Manager LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota