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WLSSD

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

May 21, 2023

RE: Support for S.F. 2995 Reauthorizing the Water and Wastewater Advisory Council

Dear Senator Wiklund,

We write to urge your support for S.F. 2995 specifically the provision that reauthorizes the Water and Wastewater Advisory Council.

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) provides wastewater treatment and solid waste services for a 530 square mile region in Northeastern Minnesota. The WLSSD serves 17 communities and 4 major industries and treats approximately 13.9 billion gallons of wastewater each year.

To provide the quality wastewater treatment necessary to protect Lake Superior we hire Minnesota certified wastewater operators. As Minnesota wastewater plants struggle to find certified operators and support quality wastewater secondary education through the state it is even more important that the Water and Wastewater Advisory Council be reinstated. This group is vital to oversee certification and competency requirements of both the individual and the wastewater secondary education programs throughout the state. The absence of this Advisory Council over the past three years has been felt. I urge the Committee's support and the reauthorization of the Water and Wastewater Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

Marianne Bohren
Executive Director
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District