

February 20, 2024

Chair Nick Frentz, Ranking Member Andrew Mathews Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate Committee Minnesota Senate Building 95 University Avenue W. St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Frentz, Ranking Member Mathews, and Committee Members,

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I am writing on behalf of the Minnesota Conservative Energy Forum (MnCEF), a non-profit education and advocacy organization that promotes an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy for Minnesota. We encourage policymakers to embrace innovations in clean and affordable energy based on our conservative principles such as economic growth, property rights, personal stewardship, job growth, and national security. We are pleased to share MnCEF's support for Senator Mathews's bill, SF 3120, requiring a study of advanced nuclear energy technology and the potential benefits, costs and impacts on Minnesota.

While MnCEF supports the transition to more renewable sources of energy, Minnesota will still need additional sources to replace base load energy currently generated by fossil fuels. We believe nuclear energy is a critical piece to the all-of-the-above strategy needed to stabilize, transform, and create a reliable grid for the future. It would provide reliable, carbon-free, high power output base load energy with a small land footprint. The study would look at the benefits, costs and impacts of nuclear power on the state of Minnesota and its grid makeup. It would equip future legislatures with the information necessary to make well-informed decisions regarding Minnesota's energy policy to ensure a cleaner, more reliable grid and affordable energy for Minnesotans.

We urge you to support SF 3120 and allow this important study to move forward. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continuing to work toward a cleaner and more reliable energy grid.

Sincerely,

Kayla Christensen Executive Director

Minnesota Conservative Energy Forum