

401 N Robert Street, Suite 150
St. Paul, MN 55101

March 25, 2024

Senator Nick Frentz, Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Cmte
3109 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Frentz and Committee Members:

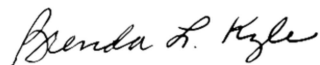
On behalf of the 1,700+ members and affiliates of the St. Paul Area Chamber, I write to express our support for SF 4889, providing funding for the Anaerobic Digester Energy System Project.

Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) manages the waste from the two counties and does so in an innovative and forward-thinking way. When no curbside organics existed in the counties, R&E developed the Food Scraps Pickup Program, which uses special compostable bags that can be collected with trash, and separated out by robotic sorters at their facility. The separated organics can then be processed by anaerobic digestion and produce biogas.

Along with producing clean, renewable energy, using anaerobic digestion will lead to a significant greenhouse gas emission reduction as compared to landfilling food waste. The public-private partnership between R&E and Dem-Con HZI BioEnergy will create 75,000 tons of organics processing capacity, which will assist the state in achieving its goals related to recycling (75% by 2030) and clean energy (100% by 2040).

The \$30 million state investment requested in this bill will provide lasting, positive environmental impacts for the region and state and we ask for your support.

Respectfully,



B Kyle President & CEO
St. Paul Area Chamber

CC: Senator Nicole Mitchell

