



February 27, 2024

Dear Minnesota Legislators:

The Keep It Clean Coalition is writing to ask you to support the **Keep It Clean Program, Grants Bill HF 3662 / SF 3957**.

The bill, which will provide funding for a statewide agency-run Keep It Clean Program and assist communities interested in implementing local clean ice programs, was chief authored by Representative Andrew Myers and by Senator Aric Putnam.

It compliments last year's Keep It Clean Bill, which was introduced in Feb. 2023, received bi-partisan support and was signed into law in May 2023 — making it illegal to place garbage and waste on or under the ice on Minnesota's lakes and rivers.

Like last year's bill, this year's **Keep It Clean Program, Grants Bill HF 3662 / SF 3957** is a collaborative effort. Supporters include the Keep It Clean Coalition, Representative Myers, Senator Putnam, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN-DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), MN-FISH, Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates, Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MN-SWCDs) and Clean Water Action Minnesota. We also have many co-authors of the bill on both sides of the aisle for which we are grateful.

About the Keep It Clean Coalition

In the past two years, the volunteer Keep It Clean Coalition has grown from including three Minnesota lakes — Lake of the Woods, Upper Red Lake and Mille Lacs Lake — to encompassing thousands of lakes across all areas of the state as people and organizations look for a solution to the growing problem of garbage and waste left on the ice by winter anglers and recreationists.

As word about Keep It Clean spreads, more lakes continue to join this grassroots effort — including lakes in Wisconsin and South Dakota — giving Minnesota an opportunity to protect its precious water resources and to serve as a leader in best practices for other states in the ice belt that are also seeking solutions to these problems.

Thank you for your time and support,

The Keep It Clean Coalition
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