



March 25th, 2024

The Honorable Senator Hawj
Chair, Minnesota Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
95 University Ave. W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3231
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Honorable Senator Hawj,

I am writing on behalf of MiningMinnesota to express our strong support for SF4523 regarding the recovery of critical materials from recycled products. We believe this bill represents a significant step forward in promoting sustainability, ensuring a secure domestic supply of critical materials, and reducing our reliance on foreign sources.

Every day and night, thousands of Americans work tirelessly to bring these materials out of the ground and into society's hands and we believe that those efforts should be honored and respected by keeping the materials in circulation. We recognize that critical materials play a crucial role in modern technologies and industries and are essential for a wide range of products, including electric vehicles, renewable energy systems, and medical devices. As we work towards our goal to achieve clean energy by 2040, we simply cannot allow critical materials to be lost to a landfill.

As technologies continue to emerge, we have the ability to stop relying on foreign production and lead the nation in safely recovering the critical materials from end-of-life products right here in our state. We can create a circular economy for critical materials where materials are reused and recycled to create a more sustainable system. In doing so, we can create strong jobs that will support families for decades to come.

SF4523 creates a task force charged with developing the roadmap to achieve this vision. The fight against climate change requires responsible development of our natural resources, from the needed domestic mining to the continual recycling and recovery of these materials. Please support this legislation so Minnesota is better positioned to lead in that fight.

Thank you for your consideration and dedication to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie C. Lucas". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Julie Lucas
Executive Director
MiningMinnesota