



Minnesota Solid Waste Administrators Association | 125 Charles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55103-2108 | www.mn-swaa.org

April 1, 2024

Re: S.F. 4523 critical materials from end-of-life products advising task force

Dear Chair Hawj and Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

The Minnesota Solid Waste Administrators Association (SWAA) is an organization of county and solid waste district professionals and affiliated waste specialists and is an affiliate of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), which represents all 87 Minnesota counties.

SWAA supports coordinated statewide market development for materials recoverable from waste. Market development efforts should: strengthen existing and establish new commodity markets, develop and support high-value uses of recovered materials, create demand for recycled materials and products across all sectors of the economy, and provide funding support to businesses and public entities that process, or use recovered materials in the production of new products.

We know many critical materials are found in our e-waste stream. It is important that the legislature acts to pass legislation (SF3940) that will improve the function of the current e-waste program, expand the products that are being collected and provide access to free collection of these materials.

SWAA appreciates being included on the Critical Materials Recovery Task Force created in SF4523. There is value in examining more sources of critical materials in the waste stream, prioritizing their collection and management, and developing more local markets. We look forward to engaging with stakeholders in this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Martinson".

Brian Martinson
Government Relations
Solid Waste Administrators Association