

April 8, 2024

Senator Foung Hawj, Chair Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3231 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Chair Foung Hawj and Members of the Committee:

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties (CAPRW) writes in strong support of S.F. 4969, a bill for an Act related to establishing a program to appropriate funding and award grants for the purchase of electric lawn and snow removal equipment and propose coding for a new energy-related law in the Minnesota Statutes, chapter 216C.

As Minnesotans are switching to electric outdoor equipment to cut emissions, save money, and improve air quality, many economically disadvantaged individuals and families in Ramsey and Washington counties are being left behind. This bill will provide a program that supports impacted communities, as it will offer inclusive grants for the purchase of electric lawn and snow removal equipment to residents who experience the worst impacts of air pollution.

Data shows that electric equipment improves air quality and saves on health costs. It is more reliable than traditional equipment. As it relates to the workforce, electric equipment supports small and new business development and innovation. Ultimately, access to electric equipment, particularly for the most vulnerable among us, will help save Minnesotans money.

CAPRW appreciates you and asks that you continue to support this legislation.

Thank you.

Sonia E. Gass

**Executive Director** 

Sandra Pyles

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties

Sandra Pyles

Director, Energy Assistance Programs

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties