



April 10, 2024

Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee
SF 3561 (Morrison); Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act

Dear Chair Hawj and Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee Members:

Otter Tail County supports the goals of SF 3561, the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act to engage manufacturers in management of solid waste they generate. This will significantly reduce waste going to landfills by reducing packaging waste, increasing reusable packaging, and moving us beyond the stagnant recycling rates we have been seeing for many years.

Otter Tail County supports a bill that:

- Requires producers of packaging and paper products help solve the waste problems they created and left for our facilities to manage;
- Brings various members of the waste industry, local government, and community representatives to the table to help develop solutions; and
- Contains strong agency oversight and enforcement capacity to assure the producers follow through as required in SF 3561.

We respectfully request your consideration to remove the living wage language. Otter Tail County appreciates Senator Morrison's willingness to continue working on the bill and is happy to provide additional information, resources, or discussion on this important topic. You can reach me at 218-770-2810 or cmcconn@ottertailcounty.gov.

Chris McConn, P.E.
Solid Waste Director