



CONSERVATION  
MINNESOTA

April 16, 2024

Chair Hawj and Members of the Senate Environment, Climate & Legacy Committee:

Conservation Minnesota thanks you and your fellow committee members for the good work you did this session. The Omnibus DE to SF3887 is emblematic of the remarkable work you have managed to accomplish in a non-budget year. We would like to highlight several key proposals that have Conservation Minnesota's strong support in the omnibus.

The Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act

We appreciate the increased attention the committee gave to several bills concerning garbage, recycling, and waste reduction. Conservation Minnesota strongly supports including the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act in the omnibus, and we look forward to finding agreement with the House and making Minnesota the fifth state to implement this bold new policy.

Outdoor School for All

The goals of the Outdoor School for All grant program are vital to ensuring kids have the best opportunities to experience nature at Minnesota's great environmental learning centers. As a state, we are lucky to have numerous nonprofits and volunteer organizations that work hard to get kids better access to nature and help to develop the skills necessary to enjoy their time outdoors. This will be a great opportunity to support the next generation of outdoor explorers.

Strategic Land Asset Management Report

This session has shown there is a significant need for the DNR to review land acquisitions and land transfers with considerations for Tribal Nations. The public will benefit from knowing more about the processes and the direction at the agency, and we commend this Chair's Initiative as a valuable inclusion in SF3887.

We respectfully ask that this committee support the Omnibus DE to SF3887 to start tackling Minnesota's growing trash problem, get more Minnesota kids outdoors, and to clarify land transfers in the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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