

March 14, 2024

Dear Chair **Dziedzic** and State and Local Government and Veterans Committee Members:

I am writing today on behalf of the Coalition for Plastic Reduction in support of the following bill: SF 3561 Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act

Minnesota is facing a waste problem and packaging is a big part of that problem. Much of that packaging is excessive or made of material that cannot be recycled. We have an opportunity with the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act to address those problems. The bill would require all packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2032. In addition, the bill prioritizes waste reduction and redesign to reduce unnecessary packaging.

Now counties and cities must accept and process whatever packaging producers put onto the market and taxpayers must cover the costs. This bill will reduce the financial burden and provide recycling access to all Minnesotans.

We ask that you support this bill.

Sincerely,
Lori Olinger
Coalition for Plastic Reduction