

Chair Latz and Committee Members,

On behalf over 70,000 women and men who make up the affiliated unions of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council, I write to encourage you to support SF4057 (Gustafson) to establish a fire life safety damper inspection verification program.

Fire dampers are critically important to prevent fire, heat, and smoke from spreading to different areas of a building through its HVAC system. This is important not only for the health and safety of individuals who work, live, or occupy a building in fire distress but also to preserve and maintain valuable infrastructure.

As the women and men who build and maintain our state's infrastructure – from hospitals to large residential complexes to commercial properties – we believe that SF4057 is a simple step to ensure that the buildings we trust to be safe are well-maintained and positioned to protect their inhabitants in case of fire or smoke.

We thank you for your consideration and underline our support for SF4057 to ensure that experienced building trades experts are regularly inspecting and maintaining our state's infrastructure to keep Minnesotans safe.

Regards,

Tom Dicklich
Executive Director