

Dear Senators:

We are writing to share our strong support of S.F. 4202.

Nearly 40% of annual energy consumption and CO2 emissions come from buildings, half of that from our homes. We can and must transform the housing industry to build green by building right for health, durability, energy conservation and efficiency, and long-term affordability.

The State can and should adopt more stringent residential energy codes to help meet statewide mandates for CO2 emissions reductions. Builders, designers, and homeowners need every incentive possible to spur more widespread adoption of super-efficient homes built to operate without fossil fuels. S.F. 4202 will assist the Minnesota housing industry to move in the direction we all need for a more resilient future.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Wagner and Randy Williams

Rachel Wagner is a designer, educator and business owner based in Duluth, MN. She provides ecologically and socially responsible solutions to improve community resiliency and increase access to healthy housing powered by clean energy. Using her decades of experience from the custom housing sector, Rachel founded Just Housing SBC, a woman-owned Minnesota public benefit corporation with the mission to make sustainable housing more affordable, replicable and scalable.

Randy Williams has worked in the residential building industry since the mid-1990s, as an electrician, plumber, HVAC installer and general contractor. Based in Grand Rapids, MN, Randy now works with other contractors, homeowners, and utilities performing energy audits and building investigations. He is also a contributing author to several trade publications and regularly teaches building science continuing education to other trades professionals.