



Saint Louis County

Administration • 100 North Fifth Avenue West, Room 202 • Duluth, MN 55802
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Representative Aisha Gomez, Chair, House Tax Committee
Representative Dave Lislegard, Chair, House Property Tax Division
Senator Ann Rest, Chair, Senate Tax Committee
Senator Grant Hauschild
Minnesota State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

April 15, 2024

Dear Chair Gomez, Chair Rest, Chair Lislegard and Senator Hauschild:

We are writing today in support of House File 5198, Rep. Lislegard's Property Tax Division Report, and Senate File 5435 (Hauschild).

We appreciate Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild including funding for the Canyon Integrated Solid Waste Management Campus; demolition of the closed public school in Hoyt Lakes; and for the Mesabi Trail – Aurora to Hoyt Lakes Spur. These projects, along with all the others in this proposed legislation are very important to the communities of the Iron Range and to St. Louis County.

As you know, the funds being directed toward these projects come from taxes paid by our local mining companies in lieu of property taxes. These efforts have no negative fiscal impact on the state's budget. We appreciate this money being reinvested into our local communities on the Iron Range and appreciate Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild for introducing this legislation.

Further, we want to thank the bill authors for including the largest increase in the Taconite Homestead Credit since it was frozen in 1998. This proposal would increase the Taconite Homestead Credit from an average of \$289-\$315 per homeowner to \$515 per homeowner and would be ongoing property tax relief for residents of Taconite Tax Relief Area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Keith Nelson

Keith Nelson
Board Chair,
St. Louis County Commissioner
6th District

Paul McDonald

Paul McDonald
Intergovernmental Chair,
St. Louis County Commissioner
4th District