

March 21, 2025

Subject: Senate File 1183 – SUPPORT

Chair Aric Putnam and the Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee,

Clean Water Action is a national organization that was formed to pass the Clean Water Act in 1972. With offices across the country, we represent thousands of members dedicated to protecting the quality of our most vital resource – water. Our goal is to ensure that all water is drinkable, swimmable, and fishable for generations to come. I am writing on behalf of our tens of thousands of our Minnesota members to support Senate File 1183. We are grateful to Senator Gustafson for bringing this important bill forward.

This committee is well versed in nitrate contamination in Minnesota and the risk this contamination poses – such as seizures, difficulty breathing, and even cancer. Private wells in particular are at risk and this funding will help ensure Minnesota families have access to safe and clean drinking water.

We appreciate the attention paid to Minnesotans living below the poverty line, infants and pregnant individuals. We know infants and young children are at a higher risk for negative health impacts from Nitrate exposure such as blue baby syndrome. This gives our most vulnerable community members much needed protection.

The need for supporting low income and high-risk families with well repairs and treatments systems is truly impactful. Unexpected, large dollar bills such as this can be extremely difficult for families on fixed incomes to manage. Thank you for the continuation of such a vital program.

We must address the cycle of polluting, cleaning, polluting, cleaning, and so on. This is an important step in the cycle. We have a duty to protect the most vulnerable Minnesotans and wholeheartedly support Senate File 1183 and are glad to see the bipartisan support as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

For Clean Water.

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