

March 24, 2025

Chair Frentz and members of the Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Committee:

On behalf of the 14,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) Minnesota and North Dakota, I am writing to express our support for SF 2900, which will help to advance deployment of geothermal energy projects that have the potential to reduce carbon emissions and costs for ratepayers and taxpayers.

LIUNA members have powered Minnesota for generations by building and maintaining the state's traditional energy infrastructure—from power plants to pipelines and distribution lines. Our members take pride in this work, and know that energy jobs can be good, family-sustaining jobs that provide long-term careers for skilled construction workers.

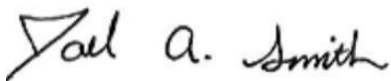
As the energy landscape evolves, LIUNA members are ready and eager to assist in building the next generation of clean energy infrastructure, including geothermal systems. SF 2900 will provide opportunities to expand these career pathways while ensuring that Minnesotans benefit from cutting-edge, sustainable energy solutions.

Geothermal energy systems can be energy efficient and cost effective. In 2022, the Steamfitters Pipefitters Local 455 installed a pioneering geothermal system at their Apprenticeship Training Center in St. Paul, achieving an 85% reduction in cooling costs. Their geothermal system is a model of what is possible.

SF 2900 is a smart investment in innovation that can help make Minnesota a leader in sustainable energy. LIUNA members are ready to get to work on new geothermal energy systems.

We urge Committee members to support this legislation.

Respectfully,



Joel Smith  
President and Business Manager