



660 Mayhew Lake Road NE, Suite 100 • Saint Cloud, MN 56304 • Voice (320) 251-7400

March 4, 2025

RE: Letter of Support for SF1690

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SF1690. This is important legislation aimed at improving electronics recycling in Minnesota. These bills represent a big step toward creating a more sustainable future by addressing the growing issue of e-waste in our state. I urge this committee to pass these bills and help facilitate a more responsible, environmentally conscious approach to managing e-waste.

Minnesota, like all states in our nation, faces huge problems and challenges in managing the disposal of e-waste. As we know, e-waste, including cell phones, computers, and televisions, can be hazardous to our environment and to our citizens if not properly disposed of. Passing SF1690 will help mitigate the effects of not properly disposing of these materials and take an important step forward ensuring responsible recycling practices and protecting our communities.

Integrated Recycling Technologies, Inc (IRT), as well as other Minnesota based e-waste recyclers, will provide crucial opportunities for these important steps forward. Leading organizations in e-waste recycling and advances in the recycling process ensure that all e-waste is handled in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, recovering precious metals such as gold, silver, and copper and preventing hazardous materials entering our landfills and waterways.

Utilizing processes to recover precious metals and other valuable materials from e-waste not only reduces the environmental impact of mining but also supports a circular economy by reintroducing these materials back into the manufacturing supply chain. Certified e-waste recycling facilities are designed to safely handle and dispose of toxic substances but also guarantee the safety of data sensitive devices that are also present in the e-waste stream through state-of-the-art processes.

IRT, a Minnesota based company, and companies alike will aim to help drive economic growth by creating jobs in recycling and by supporting SF1690, the state can further their partnerships with these companies, creating a stronger and more resilient economy centered around sustainability practices.

In addition to our recycling efforts, e-waste recyclers will be committed to educating the public and businesses on the importance of responsible e-waste recycling. Our outreach programs will help raise awareness and promote recycling initiatives, and line up well with the educational components of SF1690. The recycling infrastructure of this bill is important to addressing the growing global problem that e-waste presents, especially in Minnesota. Passing this bill will allow Minnesota to tackle these challenges while meeting its sustainability goals by creating economic opportunities with new jobs and innovative recycling technologies, while improving access to e-waste recycling services for all Minnesota communities and corporations.

As important as recycling is, the reporting of the recycled pounds back to the state should be close to the top. Using an ERP system that the state, businesses, and the individual can

log into and see what they have recycled is crucial to this bill. This ensures all pounds are accounted for, gives transparency that this program is working, stops superfund clean ups such as the MPC cleanup of over 32 trailers and their facility of CRTs, and ends the fraudulent pounds found all over the Minnesota Electronics Recycling Act of 2007. The state won't have to provide more people with running these reports as this should be and can be as easy as logging in, finding your account, and running the report. This ensures there is no manipulation of reports to gain financial incentives to receive more of our taxpayers' money.

I strongly encourage the committee to pass SF1690 and to support the important work being done by Minnesota companies like IRT. We have a great opportunity to tackle the challenges of electronics recycling head on and will provide a lasting environmental, economic, and public health benefits. With partners like IRT leading the way, Minnesota can set examples to other states and continue to be a leader in sustainable recycling practices. Together, we can create a cleaner, greener Minnesota and build a more sustainable future for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Tony Celt
Vice President-Sales and Marketing
IRT
660 Mayhew Lake Rd NE
St. Cloud, MN 56304