

MINNESOTA FOREST ZONE

TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION

SPORTSMEN *preserving* THE *trapping* HERITAGE

April 3, 2025

Sen. FOUNG Hawj, Chair
MN Senate Environment and Legacy Committee
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for Senate File 593 & 594

Dear Chair Hawj and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association, we write to express our strong support for Senate File's 593 and 594. These bills play a crucial role in improving access to Minnesota's public lands, enhancing recreational opportunities, and supporting sustainable funding mechanisms that benefit all outdoor enthusiasts, including trappers.

Dedicated funding for ATV trails is critical to ensuring that Minnesota's vast outdoor spaces remain accessible. Trappers, along with hunters and recreational riders, benefit from well-maintained trails. This bill ensures that money is appropriately allocated to support trail upkeep and expansion, which benefits both the outdoor community and local economies. The expansion of trails benefits trappers by improving access to remote locations while ensuring that land use remains sustainable and environmentally responsible.

Access to public lands and well-maintained trails is essential for the trapping community and other outdoor enthusiasts who depend on Minnesota's natural resources. These bills collectively strengthen our state's commitment to responsible land use, outdoor recreation, and economic development. We urge the committee to support these important pieces of legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Ray Sogard

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