



# Saint Louis County

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**Paul McDonald**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Chair Founj Hawj and Committee Members  
Minnesota Senate Environment, Climate, & Legacy Committee  
95 University Avenue W.  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hawj and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate File 593 and Senate File 594, two bipartisan bills providing vital funding from the state's ATV Dedicated Account for ATV trail development, construction, and maintenance. These funds, originating from dedicated ATV gas tax revenues, represent responsible stewardship of resources specifically contributed by ATV riders.

The ATV trails developed through these dedicated funds are thoughtfully planned and constructed with a clear commitment to environmental sustainability. Properly built and maintained trails ensure that Minnesota's natural beauty is preserved for generations to come.

Furthermore, these trails are essential to the economic vitality of northeastern Minnesota. Trail riding attracts numerous visitors, driving tourism and supporting local businesses, including hospitality, retail, and services, benefiting many small communities in our region. This investment directly supports our rural economy, promoting growth and employment opportunities.

I urge you to support Senate File 593 and Senate File 594, recognizing their dual benefits of environmental responsibility and economic stimulation.

Thank you for considering this important issue.

Sincerely,

*Paul McDonald*

Paul McDonald  
St. Louis County Commissioner  
Chair, Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board