

April 8, 2025

Senator Foung Hawj Chair, Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee 3231 Minnesota Senate Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: S.F. 2077, Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Bill

Dear Chair Hawj and members of the Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee,

The Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) is a Joint Powers Board consisting of Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties, formed to address waste management and energy issues. The Partnership seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of the communities we serve while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate.

The Partnership appreciates the opportunity to express support for several provisions of S.F. 2077 that will have significant impact on protecting public health and the environment and help counties and communities be more successful in reaching statutory waste management goals.

Electronic waste and battery product stewardship

The Partnership strongly supports legislative action to update the state's outdated electronic waste recycling law and various battery laws to reduce costs and increase recycling convenience for consumers, relieve burdens and risks faced by counties and taxpayers and put responsibility for managing these products on the industries designing and producing these products.

Other Provisions We Support

- LCCMR funding for Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy's anaerobic digestion project to create renewable natural gas and biochar from food waste.
- Grants for food waste reduction, food rescue and organics recovery to address the biggest component in our trash stream and help meet ambitious state recycling mandates.
- Grants to support recycling, waste prevention and reduction to help achieve state waste management goals.
- Funding to implement and enforce toxicity reduction requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Partnership's positions on S.F. 2077. We stand ready to work together on these and other important issues for the benefit of our communities and the state as the Environment and Natural Resources omnibus bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Fran Miron, Washington County

Chair, Partnership on Waste and Energy

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

100 Red Rock Road | Newport, MN 55055 info@recyclingandenergy.org | 651-768-6670