

April 9, 2025

The Honorable Fount Hawj
Chair, Senate Environment, Climate, & Legacy
Minnesota Senate
3231 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hawj:

Thank you for the thoughtful and collaborative process that has led to SF 2077, the 2025 Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy omnibus. I appreciate the opportunity to partner with members and staff as you work to develop a bill that delivers for Minnesota's environment and economy.

In particular, thank you for including many of the Governor's recommendations, especially:

- The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) **operating adjustment**, which ensures that MPCA can continue to provide the level of service that the Legislature has directed and that Minnesotans expect.
- **Permitting reform** provisions that will help the agency continue to protect the environment and human health while providing greater permitting efficiency for regulated parties.
- **Electronic waste and battery stewardship**, an initiative that will bring financial relief to counties while simplifying electronics recycling for consumers.
- Other appropriations and policy language that will benefit Minnesotans, such as reducing the use of **mercury in skin-lightening creams**.

I'm also pleased that SF 2077 supports the MPCA's efforts to directly engage with more communities and in more languages. All Minnesotans deserve healthy air, land, and water – as well as the opportunity to understand and participate in decisions about environmental protections.

I look forward to continuing conversation with you about the Governor's recommendations not currently represented in the bill, including:

- Support for sustainable aviation fuel.
- Closing loopholes in our remediation statutes to protect taxpayers.
- Statutory access to the closed landfill investment fund to maintain and respond to emergencies at 112 closed landfills.
- Incorporating a component of the operating adjustment that transfers additional funding from the Petroleum Tank Fund to the Remediation Fund

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Again, thank you to members and staff alike for the many worthy provisions you have included in SF 2077. I look forward to our work together in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Katrina Kessler

This document has been electronically signed.

Katrina Kessler, P.E.

Commissioner