



Saint Louis County

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Paul McDonald

Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board

Paul McDonald, Chair
St. Louis County Service Center
320 Miners Drive E
Ely, MN 55731

February 26, 2025

The Honorable Tou Xiong

Minnesota Senate
95 University Ave. W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg, #3203
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for Senate File 773 – Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District Board Structure

Dear Chair Xiong and Members of the House Elections Finance and Government Operations Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for **Senate File 773 (Hauschild)**, which would allow the **Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District** to operate with a three-member board of managers. This legislation is a necessary step to ensure that the district can continue to function efficiently while addressing the unique needs of the community.

As you know, Crane Lake is a small but vital part of Minnesota, with a population and governance structure that makes it challenging to fill larger boards. Allowing the district to function with a three-member board will ensure continued responsible management of water and sanitary services while reducing the burden of board recruitment in a rural area. This adjustment aligns with the practical governance needs of our community and will enhance the district's ability to serve its residents effectively.

I urge you and your colleagues to support **SF 773** and ensure its passage. This bill represents a simple yet meaningful solution that will allow the **Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District** to operate efficiently and continue providing essential services.

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

Sincerely,

Paul McDonald

Paul McDonald, Chair
Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board

CC: Sen. Grant Hauschild, Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District