



February 9, 2025

Senator Rest, Chair, Senate Taxes Committee  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Capitol, Room 328  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: S.F. 1082 - Support**

Dear Chair Rest and Members,

Minnesota Rural Counties (MRC) supports passage of S.F. 1082 to reallocate funds to crucial SCORE recycling grants for counties and local governments.

Counties are mandated by the state to manage waste and help Minnesota reach its recycling goals. The SWMT was created in 1997 to help the state and our local governments address solid waste challenges, but 27% of the SWMT collected is diverted to the general fund for non-solid waste management purposes. MRC recognized solid waste management as a legislative priority this year, and our members strongly believe that S.F. 1082 is a critical piece in addressing our growing solid waste issues.

Property taxes are a heavier burden for our low and fixed income residents, and without adequate state funding counties are forced to rely upon property taxes to provide state-mandated services. S.F. 1082 would help make certain that all counties can continue to meet the needs of their residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Neil Peterson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Neil' and last name 'Peterson' clearly legible.

Commissioner Neil Peterson, Pennington County  
Chair, Minnesota Rural Counties