CITY OF SAINT PAUL
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Noecker
Council President

Megan Jekot
Legislative Aide

March 4, 2026

Subject: Letter of Support for SF3868 – Cryptocurrency Kiosk Ban

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Saint Paul City Council, I write in strong support of SF3868 to prohibit cryptocurrency kiosks in Minnesota.

In 2025, my office led the effort to ban cryptocurrency kiosks in Saint Paul through a local ordinance change. We pursued that action after seeing a troubling increase in scams targeting our residents — particularly seniors and other vulnerable community members — who were directed by fraudsters to deposit cash into these machines. Once converted into cryptocurrency, those funds were effectively unrecoverable.

Through conversations with victims, law enforcement, financial institutions, and community partners, it became clear that cryptocurrency kiosks had become a preferred tool for scammers. Their placement in everyday retail settings such as convenience stores and gas stations creates an appearance of legitimacy that bad actors exploit. The speed and anonymity of these transactions make recovery nearly impossible and enforcement extremely difficult.

While Saint Paul acted within our municipal authority to protect our residents, local action alone is not enough. These machines can simply move across city boundaries, and communities without clear regulatory authority remain exposed. A consistent statewide standard is necessary to prevent displacement and to ensure all Minnesotans are protected from this form of financial exploitation.

SF3868 represents a proactive and commonsense approach to consumer protection and I respectfully urge the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Noecker, City Council President, Ward 2
City of Saint Paul

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