

March 10, 2021

Representative Jamie Long
Chair, Committee on Climate and Energy Finance and Policy
Minnesota House of Representatives
517 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 1987 Emissions goals for existing buildings (Long)

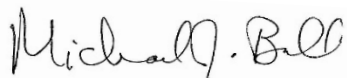
Dear Chair Long and members of the committee:

The Center for Energy and Environment is pleased to support HF 1987, which establishes a goal to guide activities for the reduction of energy use in existing residential and commercial buildings in our state. By setting a goal for 50% reductions in energy use in those buildings by 2035, this legislation would help coordinate what may now be somewhat disparate energy savings activities, and lead to more effective and efficient outcomes.

In January, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency released its latest inventory of greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota. The agency reported significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector, and modest reductions in emissions from the transportation and agricultural sectors. In contrast, however, the agency reported a 15% increase in greenhouse gas emissions from the commercial and a whopping increase of 32% from the residential sector.

As noted in by the MPCA, energy use in Minnesota's residential and commercial buildings are a significant contributor to the increased emissions in the residential and commercial sectors. HF 1987 would help provide a catalyst for actions to address these increasing emissions, as well as a measure for progress made by these actions.

Sincerely,



Mike Bull, Director
Policy and External Affairs
Center for Energy and Environment