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House Committee on Climate Energy and Finance Policy
Minnesota House of Representatives
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Letter of Support for [HF597](#) (Kraft) - Grant program established to provide financial assistance to cities to address climate change, and money appropriated.

Dear Chair Patty Acomb, Vice Chair Larry Kraft & Committee Members:

I am very happy that the 100% Clean Energy Bill ([House File 7](#)) for our State of Minnesota passed the House last week and should pass the Senate as well soon as [Senate File 4](#).

City climate action plans across Minnesota are also crucially important. Per *MPR News*' April 21, 2022 article titled "*New 30-year climate 'normals' show dramatic warming in Minnesota: Latest 1991-2020 averages shows warmer and wetter trend accelerating in the Upper Midwest published near our last Earth Day*", the science shows that "Minnesota and the Upper Midwest are the fastest warming locations in the lower 48 U.S. states." (See: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2021/04/21/new-30year-climate-normals-show-dramatic-warming-in-minnesota>).

In addition, extreme weather events year-round including in winter are continue to cause communities problems. Per NOAA Climate Protection Office article dated September 7, 2021 and titled, "*Research Links Extreme Cold Weather in the United States to Arctic Warming*," they shared that when "Examining model and satellite data from 1980 to 2021, the research team found that a stretching of the Arctic polar vortex—a strong band of winds in the stratosphere surrounding the North Pole— has increased with Arctic amplification, and is linked with extreme cold across parts of Asia and North America. Climate change is favorable for increasing Arctic polar vortex stretching events, according to the study." (See: <https://cpo.noaa.gov/Divisions-Programs/Communication-Education-and-Engagement/CEE-News/ArtMID/8293/ArticleID/2369/Research-Links-Extreme-Cold-Weather-in-the-United-States-to-Arctic-Warming>).

We therefore need to prepare more now through more local climate mitigation and adaptation efforts as soon as possible across all of Minnesota, including small towns like mine up and down our state who may simply not have the resources to participate as much as its residents and local leaders would wish to.

I therefore strongly support passage of House File 597 so more Minnesotans and their communities can be part of those taking local action on climate which is needed to help better confront and, hopefully overcome, as many of the growing climate challenges as possible in our accelerating climate crisis.

Thank you,

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