100%

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March 16, 2023,

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the Committee,

We are writing in support of Representative Larry Kraft's House File 2677, as amended.

House File 2677 will help ensure Minnesota meets its ambitious, and necessary, greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction goals. The bill focuses on addressing emissions in the transportation sector, which is currently the largest source of GHG emissions in our state. We are glad to see efforts to take emissions reductions in this sector seriously.

HF 2677 will align the work of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDoT) and the Metropolitan Council with Minnesota's GHG emissions reduction goals by setting sector-specific targets within the overall state goals and by aligning planning with those goals.

As the state's metropolitan planning entity, the Metropolitan Council has a unique and essential role in making sure development and land use align with our state's climate goals, and HF 2677 includes a study of this important issue. The bill will also help infuse climate change efforts within the metro area's decennial comprehensive planning efforts, helping to align development and land use across the metro to more fully address climate change.

We also applaud the effort to ensure MNDoT considers and addresses climate change impacts of how it plans for and develops transportation infrastructure in the state. How our state develops infrastructure has significant impacts on the ability of Minnesotans to get around, and on how much climate pollution is created while doing so. We support seeing this part of the bill and look forward to it continuing to develop and be refined.

We are in the critical decade for making the turn to a climate resilient future, and HF 2677 will help secure our future. We ask that you support it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vautrin

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