

February 20, 2023

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 772 (Kraft), which is being heard in the Labor and Industry Committee on Tuesday.

As energy costs continue to rise, more attention must be paid to the poor energy efficiency of commercial and industrial buildings. Homes and other buildings that are energy inefficient are more costly to maintain and create added cost to ownership and occupancy. Making commercial buildings more energy efficient will make them more affordable to operate and will help the state achieve energy demand goals and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Metro Cities supports the state adopting an advanced energy building standard for commercial buildings within the State Building Code and legislation that will increase the efficiency of buildings on a pathway toward net zero energy.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Lund

Michael Lune

Government Relations Specialist

Metro Cities