

100%

100% Campaign
705 Raymond Ave. - Suite 100
Saint Paul, MN 55114
www.100percentmn.org

April 20, 2022

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our support for four bills before the committee on April 21, 2022, Chair Lee's House Files 3780, 4631, 4231, and 4739.

Taken together, **these bills would advance the committee's ongoing work to build both climate preparedness and more equitable communities in Minnesota.** They do this in three ways.

First, House File 3780 would **make the bonding process more accessible** for communities who have traditionally not participated in the state capital budget process, in particular, nonprofits, American Indian communities, and communities of color. By raising awareness about and providing technical assistance around the requirements for receiving general fund or general obligation bond funding, Minnesota Management and Budget could meet an ongoing need and address historical disparities. This solution is urgently needed if we want to build a more inclusive and more equitable Minnesota.

Second, House Files 4631 and 4231 would better prepare Minnesota's communities for the extreme weather impacts we expect will increase as our climate is changing. As Minnesota invests in structures that ought to last for a decade or more, **it's imperative we ensure those structures are ready for the weather of the 2030's and 2040's.**

House File 4631 would support research at the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment into how **projections of future weather conditions can be integrated into the design and evaluation of buildings** constructed by the State of Minnesota and local governments. This research would help us identify ways to reduce energy costs, increase building innovation, and prevent damage due to extreme weather events. This is critical research for making our buildings sustainable for decades to come.

House File 4231 would help **ensure certain construction and major remodeling projects meet Minnesota's Sustainable Building 2030 guidelines.** The bill would equip the University of Minnesota's Center for Sustainable Building Research to work with local governments and other state grantees to help them plan for and comply with our state's existing standards.

Third, House File 4739 invests in a Community Air Monitoring Pilot Program in environmental justice areas of concern in Minneapolis. **This is an overdue improvement for overburdened communities.** The pilot would support the Pollution Control Agency's work to partner with local organizations to use air monitoring technologies to assess air pollution levels. This data is a key to informing future agency decision making about where we need to learn more through the placement of stationary monitors and where we need to mitigate emissions in order to protect public health. This

one-time program would make a difference in the lives of Minnesotans who need it most and would help us learn how to scale-up air monitoring in environmental justice areas across our state.

Please support House Files 3780, 4631, 4231, and 4739.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Conry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Chris Conry
Campaign Director
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