



March 16, 2021

To: Minnesota House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee

Subject: Support for HF718

Dear Rep. Sundin and Committee Members,

Humming for Bees, along with our members and friends, strongly support HF718 enabling Minnesota Cities to make more responsible choices with the use of pesticides known to be harmful to pollinators and non-targeted forms of life.

There are at least 50 communities across Minnesota that have passed resolutions protecting pollinators. With greater ability to manage insecticide use, these cities, and more, will be better able to make meaningful change for properties and public areas.

Neonicotinoids have negative effects on pollinators, beneficial insects, and other non-targeted species from water-borne to birds and mammals. With the growing body of evidence that neonicotinoids harm beneficial insects, persist in the environment, and now found in Minnesota's deer population, it is increasingly important that the best and correct decisions are made regarding pesticide use. With local control, officials and citizens will be better informed and then can make the best decisions regarding pesticide use.

Decisions on the use of these chemicals, when made at the most local level, will have the best outcome for citizens and communities. Please continue Minnesota's environmental leadership and stewardship, and vote to pass HF718.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Jeff Dinsmore

Patricia Hauser

Co-founders, Humming for Bees