



100% Campaign  
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[www.100percentmn.org](http://www.100percentmn.org)

April 20, 2021

Chair Stephenson, Chair Long, and Members of the Minnesota House,

We're writing to share our support for the climate and clean energy provisions in the Commerce and Climate and Energy Omnibus bill, Senate File 972, as amended by the House File 1031.

**First, we support the proposal for 100% clean energy by 2040 (174.3-183.26).** These provisions are a critical effort to improve our state's energy system. They're both ambitious and do-able. This proposal effectively brings together diverse stakeholders to solve the technical, economic, and geographic challenges we face in building a state energy policy that's both science-based and popular. We can and should decarbonize our state's electrical system by 2040 while maximizing the benefits of our clean energy transition by:

- Creating family-supporting jobs
- Recognizing workers' rights to organize
- Providing workers with the tools, opportunities, and assistance needed to transition to clean energy, particularly in areas of concern for environmental justice
- Ensuring clean energy benefit and opportunities are fully shared
- Lowering air polluting emissions, particularly in areas of concern for environmental justice
- Keeping electricity affordable for low-income Minnesotans.

**Second, we support the improvements to and investments in solar energy.** The bill includes provisions to increase the use of solar energy systems in public places, like, schools, state parks, and state buildings. It removes barriers to installing solar on farmland and landfills. It creates an innovative Community Access Solar program that would ensure more low-income Minnesotans can share in the benefits of solar energy.

**Third, we support the investments in electric vehicle infrastructure.** The bill invests in infrastructure to support proven and popular electric vehicles. Its electric vehicle rebates will help increase ownership in Minnesota. Its proposal to add charging stations in parks and at county buildings will make that ownership easier. Its support for statewide electric school buses and Metro Transit electric bus deployment will help ensure everyone benefits.

**Fourth, we support the bill's investment in climate adaptation and resilience.** The bill helps Minnesota prepare and adapt in five ways.

- It invests in \$583,000 in small area climate model projections. This is a powerful tool communities, agencies, planners, and researchers need to prepare all of us for climate change risks.
- It appropriates \$10m to create a Minnesota Innovative Finance Authority focused in ensuring underserved areas benefit from our clean energy transition.
- The bill improves on the work stakeholders have already done to improve the diversity of our utilities' workforces and vendors by requiring a new annual report from utilities.
- The bill provides \$3m for the Rebuild Right Grant Program, a model program for how Minnesota can support an equitable, long-term recovery in areas recovering from disasters.
- The bill requires the Department of Commerce to support, upon request, Tribal Advocacy Councils on Energy. This program would help ensure Minnesotans across the state can fully participate in our clean energy transition.

**Fifth, we encourage the House continue making investments in home pre-weatherization.** The bill takes two important steps forward on home weatherization by establishing a Weatherization Task Force and providing a modest appropriation to expand pre-weatherization services.

Thank you for your work time and attention,



Chris Conry  
Campaign Director  
100% Campaign

The 100% Campaign brings together over 50 endorsing organizations including faith leaders, labor unions, health professionals, scientists, youth, environmental advocates, community organizations, new Americans, indigenous leaders, rural organizations, artists, & small business owners. Endorsers include:

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| Alliance for Sustainability                               | Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light                 |
| Brainerd Lakers United for the Environment                | Minnesota Nurses Association                         |
| Clean Up the River Environment                            | Minnesota Public Health Association                  |
| Climate Generation  | Muslim American Society of Minnesota                 |
| Coalition for Clean Transportation                        | MN350  |
| Communications Workers of America Minnesota State Council | MN Can't Wait  |
| Community Power   | Native Lives Matter                                  |
| COPAL: Comunidades Organizado El Poder Y La Accion Latina | Northwest Metro Climate Action                       |
| EcoFaith Network of the Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA      | Powershift Network                                   |
| Education Minnesota                                       | Prairie Home Farm                                    |
| Environment Minnesota                                     | Rural Renewable Energy Alliance                      |
| Episcopal Church of the Ascension                         | SEIU Healthcare Minnesota                            |
| Fresh Energy  | Sierra Club North Star Chapter                       |
| Great Lakes Gear Exchange                                 | Solar United Neighbors                               |
| Growth & Justice  | Sunrise Movement – Minnesota                         |
| Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate                | Sustainability Network Coalition (UMN - Twin Cities) |
| Honor the Earth   | TakeAction Minnesota                                 |
| iMatter   | Thriving by Design                                   |
| ISAIAH  | Unidos MN  |
| Itasca Earth Circle                                       | Union of Concerned Scientists                        |
| Izaak Walton League – Minnesota                           | UMN Undergraduate Public Health Association          |
| Junket: Tossed & Found                                    | Voices for Environmental Justice                     |
| Land Stewardship Project                                  | Vote Solar   |
| Lutheran Advocacy Minnesota                               | The Water Crisis                                     |
| Main Street Alliance                                      | West Metro Climate Action                            |
| March for Science – Minnesota                             | Wild Wolves Media                                    |
| Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy               | Winona Climate Action Network                        |
| Minnesota Environmental Partnership                       | Women Thinking Out Loud                              |