

March 9, 2023

Chair Murphy and Members of the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee,

We write today to ask for your support of SF 2584 (Dibble), establishing a clean transportation standard to reduce the carbon intensity of Minnesota's transportation fuels.

At Conservation Minnesota, our mission is to protect the people and the places that Minnesotans love. Reducing emissions and fighting climate change are central to this goal; and ensuring that Minnesotans are leading and benefiting in this process is vital. Already, this Legislature has taken massive strides toward emissions reductions in the electricity sector with the passage of the 100% Clean Energy Bill. Now, it's time to address Minnesota's largest emitting sector: transportation.

Each year, the transportation sector in Minnesota emits the equivalent of roughly 40 million tons of carbon dioxide. Emissions in transportation are generally about 33% higher than any other sector in our state, contributing significantly to our overall climate impact. Minnesota has already taken concrete steps toward addressing these emissions with the state's Clean Cars Minnesota rules, and the Legislature continues to consider positive bills that promote the use of electric vehicles. We know that these vehicle electrification policies are a crucial component of transportation decarbonization, but we also understand that additional action is needed to address the full spectrum of transportation fuels.

We believe that electric vehicles are the inevitable future of transportation. However, more can be done both to accelerate vehicle electrification and to limit emissions in vehicles that haven't yet been, or can't easily be, electrified. Although several major manufacturers have committed to ending the production of combustion engine vehicles by 2035, many of these vehicles will likely remain on our roads well past 2050. Additionally, many heavy-duty and aviation vehicles will likely continue to require combustion engines in the long-term. As a result, Minnesota faces decades of continued liquid fuel use. But with a clean transportation standard, we can help ensure that *all* of our fuel sources, liquid or electric, are as climate-friendly as possible.

SF2584 (Dibble), or the Clean Transportation Standard Act, establishes a standard to reduce the aggregate carbon intensity of *all* transportation fuels by 25% by 2030, 75% by 2040, and 100% by 2050, with reasonable safeguards. By creating an effective credit market, this policy rewards fuel suppliers for producing low-emissions fuels and provides accountability for unnecessarily high greenhouse gas pollution. Along the way, SF2584 promotes transportation innovation that creates broad economic development, provides benefits for consumers and fuel or feedstock suppliers, increases energy security with local fuels, improves air quality, supports electrification, and mitigates climate impacts across the transportation sector.

If passed, SF2584 creates an all-of-the-above pathway toward transportation decarbonization that complements ongoing efforts. As we fight climate change, we must pursue every opportunity to reduce emissions, leaving no stone or fuel unturned. This bill does exactly that. We respectfully urge your support.

Sincerely,

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