



CONSERVATION  
MINNESOTA

April 9, 2026

RE: SF1690 (Kupec)

Chair Hawj, and members of the Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee:

Conservation Minnesota writes to you to express our support for SF1690 (Kupec), which would modernize the state's battery collection and recycling system. Stewardship programs like this are an important tool for cleaning our solid waste stream by creating more corporate responsibility for end-of-life care of products, rather than relying solely on the public.

Minnesota's current e-waste law was passed in 2007, and consumer electronics have changed greatly since then. With that in mind, this bill provides a much-needed update to our battery waste system and procedures, which comes with many benefits. Removing these batteries from the waste stream prevents potential toxic runoff into our soil and waters and reduces contamination of otherwise recyclable materials. Better recycling makes retrieving valuable critical materials easier, helping to bring us closer to a circular system based on reuse. Further, it protects waste workers by limiting dangerous fires and emergencies caused by batteries in sorting facilities and on garbage trucks.

SF1690 (Kupec) brings our battery recycling systems up to date, expanding the scope to capture more of these products. It reflects both a compromise and real progress towards solving some of the most pressing solid waste issues in our modern technology economy. The proposed program requires a stewardship plan for all covered battery manufacturers, ensuring that as new batteries are made and distributed, companies are responsible for their entire useful life, including their disposal.

In summary, Conservation Minnesota supports SF1690 (Kupec) as an important towards a safe, modern, and responsible electronic waste system. We urge the committee to support the bill to help bring our waste management laws up to date and support better recycling and disposal of batteries.

Sincerely,  
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