

**RAMS** range association  
of municipalities  
and schools

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Phone: 218.235.0029 · Email: idarukavina@ramsmn.org

The Honorable Tim Walz  
Governor – State of Minnesota  
130 State Capitol  
79 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Kurt Daudt  
Minority Leader – Minnesota House of  
Representatives  
267 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Melissa Hortman  
Speaker of the Minnesota House of  
Representatives  
463 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Melisa Lopez Franzen  
Minority Leader – Minnesota Senate  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2221  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Jeremy Miller  
Majority Leader – Minnesota Senate  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3113  
St. Paul, MN 55155

***SENT VIA E-MAIL***

May 26, 2022

Dear Minnesota Leaders,

On behalf of the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS), representing over 75,000 residents of the Iron Range, we are writing to request that Governor Walz and Legislative leaders agree to a legislative special session and pass the remaining unfinished business from the regular legislative session.

We feel strongly that the state legislature should pass a capital investment bonding bill that invests in state asset preservation and helps our communities with local projects. We have many cities here in northern Minnesota that are relying on partnership from the state to complete their important projects. Passing a strong bonding bill was a legislative priority for RAMS in 2022.

Our members also feel strongly that passing a bipartisan Tax bill is very important. We were encouraged to see that the compromise tax bill included a repeal of the state income tax on Social Security, an increase to Local Government Aid, and reforms for the PILT funding formula for counties.

In addition, as we represent 15 public school districts in our region and the future of our region depends on a robust public education system for our youth, we would like to reiterate our support for increased investment for E-12 education.

Finally, thank you for passing an Agriculture bill containing important funding for broadband expansion in rural Minnesota. Thank you also for passing the Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) bill. Both measures were important legislative priorities for RAMS and we appreciate your work in these areas.

***“One Range...One Voice”***

Please help our communities in rural Minnesota by going back to work and finishing the unfinished business of the 2022 regular legislative session.

Respectfully,



Ida Rukavina  
Executive Director

RAMS Board of Directors



Cyndi Worshek, President  
Mesabi East School Board, ISD #2711



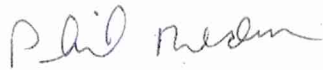
Barb Kalmi, Secretary/Treasurer  
Nashwauk Keewatin School Board, ISD #319



Pat Medure, Vice President  
Grand Rapids School Board, ISD #318



Charlie Baribeau  
Virginia City Council



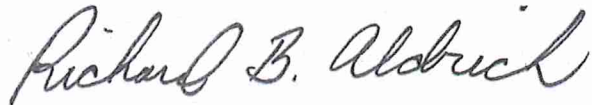
Phil Medure  
Great Scott Town Board



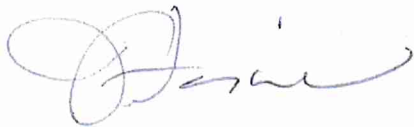
Jennifer Saccoman-Hoffman  
Hibbing City Council



Stuart Lehman  
Buhl City Council



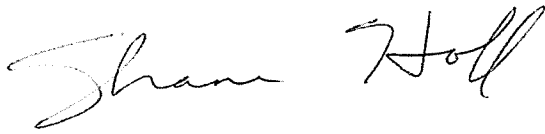
Richard Aldrich  
Supt, Hibbing, ISD #701



Jim Fisher  
McDavitt Town Board



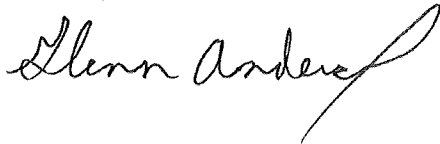
Paul Kess  
Ely City Council



Shane Hoff  
Silver Bay City Council



Julie Lucas  
French Town Board



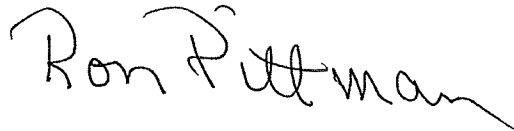
Glenn Anderson  
Babbitt City Council



Dr. Noel Schmidt  
Supt, Rock Ridge, ISD #2909



Bob Berrini  
Morse Town Board



Ronald Pittman  
Cherry Town Board



Stacey Scholz  
Rock Ridge School Board, ISD #2909

Norma Jean Jofs  
Aurora City Council



Kim McLaughlin  
Hibbing School Board, ISD #701



Travis Vake  
Chisholm City Council



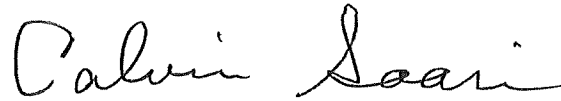
Dale Adams  
Grand Rapids City Council



David Zins  
Hoyt Lakes City Council



Warren Stolp  
Nashwauk Town Board



Calvin Saari  
Mayor, City of Nashwauk

CC: Senator Thomas Bakk  
Senator David Tomassoni  
Senator Justin Eichorn  
Senator Carrie Ruud  
Representative Mary Murphy  
Representative Rob Ecklund  
Representative Julie Sandstede  
Representative Dale Lueck  
Representative David Lislegard  
Representative Spencer Igo