

A resolution recognizing the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water for all Minnesotans.

WHEREAS, the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water is a universal and inalienable right; and

WHEREAS, sources of fresh water are necessary for healthcare, agriculture, industry, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2015 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency report, half of the lakes and rivers in southern Minnesota are often so polluted that they are unsafe for swimming and fishing; and

WHEREAS, many Twin Cities lakes will be unable to support native fish and plants by 2050, given rising salt levels; and

WHEREAS, if Minnesota's lakes can't stay clean, our state's tourism industry and quality of life will be adversely affected; and

WHEREAS, over 100 rural communities have wastewater infrastructure systems over 30 years old, and many are unable to afford improvements; and

WHEREAS, our fresh waterways are essential to the cultural heritage of our state, and are a major contributor to the Minnesota economy; and

WHEREAS, the sustainable management of water is a social, economic, environmental, and ethical challenge that involves not only institutions but the whole of society; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the \_\_\_\_\_ Party of Minnesota that it should be the policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, sanitary purposes, agriculture, recreation, and tourism.