

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

August 29, 2017

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 7th Annual Resource Recycling Conference. I am excited that this year's event is being held at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. I am sorry I can't join you in person today, but want to thank you for the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in this event.

Your efforts in recycling and composting protect the environment and keep our community clean and free of waste. This conference is vital because it brings together people in the industry to engage in dialogue and to learn about the latest research findings. In particular, I want to thank the Recycling Association of Minnesota and the Minnesota chapter of Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) for their leadership here in Minnesota and nationally.

I am a strong advocate for increased efficiency in the production and consumption of energy, and I lead several legislative efforts aimed at increasing efficiency. Recycling is a key part of meeting our needs as consumers in ways that minimize the energy footprint. As a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee, I often discuss how we can meet the growing demands for various crucial minerals. In almost every case, recycling is an important part of the solution, and in almost every case, recycling levels are not yet what they can and should be.

Again, thank you for your continued commitment and investment in engaging the public about the benefits of recycling. Because of your efforts, we are closer to realizing this goal.

Sincerely,



Al Franken
United States Senator