



The Office of  
**Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison**  
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January 23, 2023

The Honorable Patty Acomb  
Chair, House Climate and Energy Finance  
and Policy Committee  
593 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

**Re: House File 393**

Dear Madam Chair and Members:

I write in support of House File 393. This bill would provide Minnesotans with additional protections to help vindicate their rights in disputes with their public utilities. Accordingly, I encourage the House Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee to advance this important bill.

One of my duties as Attorney General is to advocate for residential and small business utility customers, per Minn. Stat. § 8.33. My role as a ratepayer advocate is central to my mission to help Minnesotans afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect. The ability to access safe, reliable, and affordable electric and natural gas service is essential. Minnesotans depend on these services to heat their homes in cold Minnesota winters and power the technologies required to participate in modern society. Occasionally, ratepayers will have complaints with respect to their public utilities. Unfortunately, when individual customers have concerns with large corporations, they suffer from an appreciable power disparity and sometimes require assistance in order to vindicate their rights.

House File 393 would improve, clarify, and codify significant procedural protections for ratepayers seeking to file complaints against their public utilities. Specifically, the bill includes a complaint resolution procedure, a process for appealing the outcome of their complaint to the Public Utilities Commission, and a mechanism for seeking judicial review of the Commission's process. I enthusiastically support House File 393 urge you to pass it.

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Thank you for allowing me to provide my recommendations with respect to this bill. If you have any questions or would like additional information, my team and I would be happy to help in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Ellison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General