



To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

From: Jacque M. Betz, City Administrator, City of Gladstone

Date: February 14, 2023

Re: Support for HB 3125

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

The City of Gladstone requests consideration for support of HB 3125, to assist our residents financially, when necessary, to meet their utility costs. The City has endeavored to provide support in various ways including a low-income rate reduction program, pandemic assistance, and involvement with the Low Income Household Water Assistance funding that will expire at the end of 2023.

The need for assistance is increasing, but funding availability will not. The City must undertake significant capital improvements over the next few years that will affect our utility rates, resulting in even more need for our residents. Having the ability to refer them to another form of ongoing assistance would be of tremendous benefit, overall.

The City appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on this important bill, and recognizes the worthiness of this proposed legislation.