



May 10, 2022

Chair Carla Nelson
3235 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Nelson and members of the Taxes Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association's 6,500 members I want to thank you for the inclusion of three items included in the A-1 amendment to House file 3669.

Riparian Buffer Tax Credit: Since the buffer law was enacted in 2015 Minnesota farmers have, without proper compensation, come into compliance with the law. According to the Board of Water and Soil Resources nearly 100 percent of public waters and ditches are in compliance with the law. The inclusion of the buffer tax credit is an issue of fairness and it will help reduce the tax burden on the acres that are no longer generating income.

Estate Tax Portability: Estate taxes can be a barrier to passing down farms to future generations by draining the financial resources of farmers and ranchers. The allowance of a surviving spouse to combine the unused portion of a deceased spouses' exemption will help ensure that family farms can continue to be passed down to the next generation.

First Tier Valuation Limit Increase: The last time the first tier valuation limit was increased was in 2010. With property values increasing in recent years, farmers are seeing increases in their property taxes due. Increasing the first tier valuation limit will allow those increases to stabilize.

MCGA wants to thank Chair Nelson and Chair Weber for the inclusion of these items and we look forward to working with you to get this provision included in a final tax agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Biegler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Bryan Biegler
President
Minnesota Corn Growers Association