

January 10, 2023

Minnesota Senate Agriculture, Broadband and Rural Development
Committee
1150 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue North
St. Paul, MN 55155



Chair Putnam and Committee Members,

On behalf of Minnesota's 3,000 family pig farmers and the Minnesota Pork Producers Association, we would like to share our resounding support for the confirmation of Thom Petersen as Minnesota's Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. Petersen is a strong advocate for Minnesota's farmers and rural communities. He works diligently and with integrity to ensure the safety, health, and economic viability of agriculture in Minnesota. In our experience, Mr. Petersen is fair, accessible, transparent, and exemplifies service-leadership. He works closely up-and-down the agricultural supply chain in Minnesota to build lasting partnerships and collaborations that serve all Minnesotans.

Agriculture is a diverse, economic engine for our state that provides food, fiber, and fuel to people here in Minnesota, and around the world. Pig farming is a complex business that interacts with local, state, and federal agencies. Mr. Petersen works collaboratively with other state and federal agencies in a way that allows farmers to focus on the environmental, economic, and social sustainability of their farms. He understands and is committed to leading the Department of Agriculture in a way that supports the innovations and future opportunities in agriculture and rural communities in Minnesota.

We appreciate your time and consideration in Mr. Petersen's confirmation as Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John Anderson
Pig Farmer, Belgrade, Minn.
Minnesota Pork Producers Association President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Resler". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jill Resler
CEO
Minnesota Pork Producers Association