

February 13th, 2023 Senate Agriculture, Broadband and Rural Development Committee Chair Aric Putnam 3215 Minnesota Senate Building 95 University Avenue West Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Putnam and members of the Committee,

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) appreciates the opportunity to offer our letter of support for SF1246 on behalf of our nearly 30,000 farm families, and thanks Senator Kupec for bringing this bill forward.

Minnesota is a leader in renewable fuels. By providing stable infrastructure at filling stations, you are enabling farmers to do our part in growing and producing a cleaner burning, higher octane fuel that reduces greenhouse gasses. Increased use of renewable fuels is the fastest way to reduce greenhouse gasses in our state.

A large barrier in the biofuel discussion has been a stable funding source for updated fuel infrastructure. Minnesota faces an aging fueling infrastructure with over 20 percent of underground storage tanks (USTs) being 30 years or older. Aging USTs pose an environmental risk through leakage. By being proactive and providing options to address this issue before leaks occur, we can avoid costly environmental mitigation.

Biofuels are a win for all of Minnesota: lower gas prices, cleaner air, and a stronger economy. By providing stable infrastructure at filling stations, you are enabling farmers to do our part in growing and producing a cleaner burning, higher octane fuel that reduces greenhouse gases. And in turn, we hope to see an increased use of ethanol and other biofuels by consumers across the state.

MFBF supports the increased use of biofuels and is excited for the opportunities this bill will provide when it comes to expanding the renewable fuel industry, while also being a part of the solution to reducing emissions to protect our soil, air and water.

Sincerely,

Dan Glessing President

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