



March 13, 2023

Senate Agriculture, Broadband and Rural Development
Chair Aric Putnam
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Putnam and members of the Committee,

I write on behalf of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, representing nearly 30,000 farm family members across the state of Minnesota, to share support for SF0861, SF1592, SF 2620 and SF2681.

Our members understand how important it is to have adequate livestock processing facilities throughout Minnesota, along with programs that assist existing facilities in improving their operations while also helping new processors receive the necessary support they need to succeed.

Creating a position within the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) to assist prospective operators in navigating the plethora of requirements and regulations will help lessen the barrier of entry for those seeking to participate in the meat processing industry.

Moreover, providing financial assistance to help processors engage in training and educational opportunities will allow them to expand their businesses, build vital industry contracts, and elevate their day to day functions. Often these opportunities can be missed due to the monetary burden that comes with them, and we are grateful for legislation that aids with these costs and helps processors learn new skills and techniques allowing them to stay strong well into the future.

We thank Senator Kupec, Senator Kunesh and Senator Rarick for leading on these four pieces of legislation, and the co-authors for supporting these bills.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Glessing'.

Dan Glessing

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