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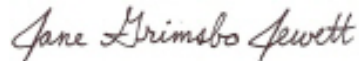
March 17, 2023

Dear Senate Agriculture Committee:

This letter is in support of Senate File 2900 - Support for Farmers' Markets and Direct Marketing Producers. The Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture has had the privilege to be involved over many years in training farmers and farmers' market managers on food safety and food regulations. We have seen the dedication and level of concern market managers have to help their vendors meet food safety standards and licensing or registration requirements. Managers also help their vendors navigate many other questions such as sales tax liability, insurance needs, and production questions.

Farmers' market managers are truly educators and serve as valuable, highly accessible resources to farmers in their communities. Many market managers are volunteers or paid token amounts. This bill would help farmers' markets compensate managers more fairly for the tremendous work they do and help ensure that work can continue.

Yours truly,



Jane Grimsbo Jewett
Associate Director
Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture