

March 18, 2024

Senate Agriculture Broadband, and Rural Development Committee Chair Aric Putnam 3215 Minnesota Senate Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Putnam and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association, thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments regarding SF 3955, legislation to secure base funding in the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) program.

The AGRI program is a critical tool in the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's toolbox to support our state's agriculture and biofuel sectors. The program assists with the development of new markets for agricultural products and increases the efficiency and productivity of farmers and renewable energy producers. Our association strongly supports two specific programs under the AGRI umbrella - the Biofuels Infrastructure grant program and the Bioincentive program.

We welcome additional resources and long-term certainty in the AGRI program and urge the committee to act favorably on SF 3955.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Sincerely,

Brian Werner Executive Director

Br-D Wm

Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association