



March 18, 2024

Senator Aric Putnam
Senate Agriculture, Broadband and Rural Development Committee
3215 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Putnam and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association's (MCGA) nearly 7,000 members I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments in support of SF 3955.

We appreciate Senator Putnam bringing SF 3955 forward which would secure base funding for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) program. Securing base funding ensures that AGRI will continue to offer a robust set of grant programs to assist Minnesota's diverse agriculture sector with growth opportunities, including the Biofuels Infrastructure grant program. Minnesota is a national leader in biofuels production and use. In 2023 over 127 million gallons of Unleaded 88 were sold at Minnesota fueling stations, a blend of 15 percent ethanol and 85 percent gasoline. Consumers who purchased Unleaded 88 saved an average of 16 cents per gallon compared to regular 87, a total \$20 million in savings at the pump. Support for AGRI will help continue Minnesota's national leadership in the number of locations offering Unleaded 88, allowing stations to offer a more affordable, cleaner burning, efficient, higher-octane fuel.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to reach out to MCGA's Senior Public Policy Director Amanda Bilek at 952-460- 3604 or at abilek@mncorn.org

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Allen-Tully".

Dana Allen-Tully
President
Minnesota Corn Growers Association