

Minnesota State Senate

Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee
Monday, April 8, 2024
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

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Minutes

Present: Senator Aric Putnam - Chair, Senator Robert J. Kupec Vice Chair, Senator Torrey N. Westrom, Senator Bruce D. Anderson, Senator Gary H. Dahms, Senator Gene Dornink, Senator Heather Gustafson, Senator Mary K. Kunesch, Senator Judy Seeberger

Absent: No Members Absent

Senator Aric Putnam called the meeting to order at 3:08pm

Call to Order

S.F. 5125: Senator Kunesch: Eligibility modification for sustainable agriculture demonstration grants.

The following individuals testified on S.F.5125:

Ashley Bress, Assistant Director, Ag. Marketing & Development, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 5125, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 5049: Senator Putnam: Various agricultural definitions and grants provisions modifications and appropriations.

3:25pm Senator Putnam passed the gavel to Senator Kupec

Senator Putnam moved the A-2.

Senator Putnam moved to amend the A-2 with the A-4. Motion prevailed on voice vote.

A-2, as amended, prevailed on voice vote.

The following individuals testified on S.F.5049:

- Angela Dawson, Owner, 40 Acre Cooperative
- Zoe Hollomon, Executive Director, Midwest Farmers of Color Collective
- Amanda Koehler, Policy Manager, Land Stewardship Project
- Relyndis Tegomoh, Farmer, Big River Farms
- Lily Mboss, Farmer, Tulime Farms
- Ore Taylor, Farmer & Owner Taylor Ventures llc.
- Vedha Reddy, Farmer, Big River Farms
- Farhio Khalif, Director of Somali American Farmer Institute
- Michael Chaney, Project Sweetie Pie

Senator Kupec moved that S.F. 5049, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 5308: Senator Putnam: Previous agricultural appropriations modifications.

The following individuals testified on S.F.5308:

- Tom Godward, MN Wild Rice Farmer, MN Cultivated Wild Rice Council
- Brian Buhr, Dean, University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources

Beth Nelson, President, MN Cultivated Wild Rice Council

Senator Kupec moved that S.F. 5308, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 4069: Senator Dornink: Meat cutting and butchery training grants appropriation.

4:50pm Senator Kupec passed the gavel to Senator Putnam

The following individuals testified on S.F.4069:

Eric Sawatzke, Ag. Educator, Minnesota Association of Agricultural Educators
Loren Dauer, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 4069, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03pm

Senator Aric Putnam, Chair

Nick Roth, Legislative Assistant