



March 7, 2024

Senate Taxes Committee  
Chair Ann Rest  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Capitol, Room 328  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Rest and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association (MCGA) nearly 7,000 members I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of SF 4241.

MCGA is committed to working with farmers to help adopt and scale best practices that are effective and economically-viable. Minnesota corn farmers are investing their own money through the corn checkoff into research to discover new technology, tools and best management practices to make farming more environmentally sustainable by increasing productivity through the efficient use of crop inputs. Each year, approximately \$2 million goes toward sponsoring independent science-based research, mostly at the University of Minnesota, focused on nitrogen rate, timing, placement, and treatment.

These aims can be bolstered through public policy to help offset some of the upfront costs farmer face when changing their practices. MCGA supports incentive-based tools to accelerate the implementation of practices proven to improve soil health and water quality. SF 4241 is another opportunity to encourage farmers to adopt on-farm practices that will help protect groundwater in southeast Minnesota from nitrogen loss. The Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification program works with farmers to implement and maintain conservation practices that promote water quality. Providing a property tax incentive offers a modest incentive to farmers to become certified.

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](mailto:abilek@mncorn.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Allen-Tully". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dana Allen-Tully  
President  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association