



THE GOOD ACRE
FOOD + COMMUNITY

March 18th, 2024

Dear Chair Rest and Members of the Senate Taxes Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the modifications to the agricultural property classification as outlined in SF 4828. As the largest nonprofit food hub in Minnesota and an advocate for equity in the agricultural sector, I believe it is crucial to recognize and address the diverse needs of farmers across our state. The proposed amendments aim to ensure fair and equitable property classification for all farmers, regardless of the size of their operations.

Agricultural land comes in all sizes, and the benefits of agricultural property classification should not be limited based on acreage alone. This acknowledgment is particularly important for small-scale specialty crop farmers, who often operate on small parcels of land. At The Good Acre, we witness firsthand the contributions of small-scale farmers, especially those from marginalized communities. In 2022, approximately 90% of the \$1.38M in produce that we sourced through our food hub came from farmers operating on diverse farms of 10 acres or less. These farmers play a vital role in our local food system and deserve equitable treatment under property tax classification.

By supporting this bill, we can ensure that farmers of all sizes receive fair and just treatment under the law. This will not only benefit individual farmers but also contribute to the overall diversity, resilience, and sustainability of Minnesota's agricultural landscape. I urge you to stand in solidarity with farmers across our state by advocating for the passage of this important bill.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Nikki Warner
Director of Communications and Government Affairs
The Good Acre
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