

Minnesota State Senate

Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee
Wednesday, March 12, 2025
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

Minutes

Present: Senator Aric Putnam - **Chair**, Senator Robert J. Kupec - **Vice Chair**, Senator Torrey N. Westrom - **Ranking Minority Member**, 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 3:06pm. Gavel changed to Senator Kupec.

Call to Order *Only 1 Testifier will be allowed for each bill. Contact the bill author if you wish to testify*

Additional Written Testimony will be accepted.

S.F. 1894: Senator Putnam: Federal accreditation requirement of benefit services providers.

No new testimony taken at this time.
Senator Putnam moves A-7 amendment. A-7 amendment is adopted.

Gavel changes to Senator Putnam

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1894, as amended, recommended to pass and re-referred to the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2217: Senator Seeberger: Minnesota State Horticultural Society appropriations.

Testifiers: Paul Markwardt – Treasurer, Board of Directors, Minnesota State Horticultural Society

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 2217, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 1831: Senator Kupec: County agricultural inspector grants appropriation.

Testifiers: Bob Duning – Stearns County, County Agricultural Inspector, Anthony Cortilet – Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1831, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 2147: Senator Kupec: Livestock investment grant program grant awards modification.

Testifiers: Hannah Bernhardt – Finlayson farmer, Climate Land Leaders, Courtney VanderMey – MDA Ag Marketing & Development, Theresa Keavney – Climate Land Leaders

Senator Putnam moves A-2 amendment, amendment is adopted.

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 2147, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 1770: Senator Kupec: Northern crops institute grants appropriation.

Testifiers: David Boehm – Director, Northern Crops Institute

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1770, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 305: Senator Lang: Meat, poultry, egg, and milk processing facilities appropriation.

Testifiers: Paul Sobocinski – Farmer, Minnesota Farmers Union, Ashley Bress – Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Andrea Vaubel – Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 305, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 1805: Senator Dahms: Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association grants appropriation.

Testifiers: John Dvorak – Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 1805, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 2137: Senator Johnson: Minnesota Turf Seed Council grants appropriation.

Testifiers: Bruce Kleven, MN Turf Seed Council

Senator Putnam moved that S.F. 2137, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Presentation from the University of Minnesota on Precision Ag. & the FAARM Project.

Presenter: Shashank Priya – VP of Research & Innovation, University of Minnesota, Brian Buhr – Dean, College of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Sciences

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm



Senator Eric Putnam, Chair



Keely Spens, Legislative Assistant