

MN Valley Grain Co., LLC

◇ *Le Center* ◇ *Montgomery* ◇ *Webster*

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March 21, 2025

To The Elected Officials of the State of Minnesota,

My name is David Woestehoff, the owner & operator of MN Valley Grain Company LLC, a 4-point location grain elevator headquartered in Le Center MN. I am writing to speak in opposition of MDA's proposed grain license fee increase (SF2458). The proposed change would increase our licensing fee by 169% from 2024 to 2025.

Our company has already experienced extreme increases in operating costs in recent times. Since 2019, our insurance for our facilities alone, have increased by 132%. Property taxes and special assessments have increased by 45% over the same period. The cost of our hired labor and the benefits package we provide them have increased at an alarming rate.

My company has not been profitable over the past 3 years. The passage of this bill would make it very difficult for my business to remain viable.

Given the economic environment I am working in, I am asking you vote against MDA's proposed grain license increase.

Sincerely,



David J Woestehoff

MN Valley Grain LLC