

# Minnesota State Senate

Agriculture, Veterans, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee  
Monday, April 21, 2025  
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

## Minutes

**Present:** Senator Aric Putnam - **Chair**, Senator Robert J. Kupec - **Vice Chair**, Senator Gary H. Dahms, Senator Heather Gustafson

**Absent:** Senator Torrey N. Westrom - **Ranking Minority Member**, Senator Bruce D. Anderson, Senator Gene Dornink, Senator Mary K. Kunesh, Senator Judy Seeberger

Senator Aric Putnam called the meeting to order at 3:07pm

### Call to Order

**S.F. 188: Senator Gustafson: Ortho-phthalate testing results reporting of packaged food requirement.**

Testifiers: Michael Hanson – Scientist, Consumer Reports, Hannah Olson – Health Professionals for a Healthy Planet, Avonna Stark – Executive Director, Clean Water Action, Lori Olinger – Coalition for Plastic Reduction, Megan Baumler – PHD, RDN, LDN, Associator Professor, St. Catherine University, Dr. Zeke McKinney, MD HealthPartners and Professor at University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Darin Broton – Executive Director, Agrigrowth, Andrew Morley – Director, Environmental Policy, MN Chamber of Commerce

Discussion only.

**S.F. 2473: Senator Hoffman: Minnesota Black Farmers Association purchase of advanced 21st century farming equipment for use by a cooperative of Black veteran farmers appropriation.**

Testifiers: Julius Cochran, Angela Dawson – MN Farmer, Michael Chaney – Project Sweetie Pie

Discussion only.

### Woman's Environmental Institute Incubator Farm Project

Testifiers: Karen Clark - Women’s Environmental Institute, Activist Executive Director, Farhio Khalif – Somali American Farmers Institute, Thierno Sow – Beginning Farmer, Farming Business Student at WEI

Discussion only.

**S.F. 2653: Senator Kupec: Solar pollinator programs special license plate establishment and agrivoltaic solar sites eligibility for solar site management practices provision.**

Testifiers: Rob Schultz – Vice President, Audubon Upper Mississippi River, Sarah Whebbe – Senior Policy & Regulatory Affairs Associate, MnSEIA, Colleen Hollinger – Director, Natural Resource Services, Sophia Lenarz-Coy – Executive Director, The Food Group, Eric Buchanan – Director of Renewable Energy, University of Minnesota West Central Outreach Center

Discussion only.

**S.F. 3083: Senator McEwen: Pesticides from treated seeds addition to the Commissioner of Agriculture's pesticide management plan requirements; appropriating money.**


Testifiers: Erin Rupp – Minnesota Pollinator Stewardship Council, Dave Legvold – Minnesota Farmer, Monta Hayner – Fly Fishing Women of Minnesota, Orvis Endorsed Guide Driftless Fly Fishing Company, Dawn Georgieff – Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Minnesota, Julia Brokaw – Xerces Society, Jane Windsberger – Minnesota Farmer, Ashley Runholt – Agronomy Sales Manager, Cottonwood Oil Co-op, Lee Helgen – Executive Director, MN Crop Production Retailers

Discussion only.

**Adjournment**

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**The meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm**

  
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**Senator Aric Putnam, Chair**

  
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**Keely Spens, Legislative Assistant**