



April 10, 2025

Senator John Marty, Chair
Minnesota Senate Finance Committee
3235 Minnesota Senate Bldg
95 University Ave W
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for SF 2458 (Putnam)


Dear Chair Marty and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our 31,000 family farm and ranch members, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) appreciates the opportunity to share written testimony in support of SF 2458. Based on MFBF policy set by our grassroots membership statewide, we specifically want to identify support for the following provisions:

- Operating adjustment for the Board of Animal Health
- Additional investment in the Agricultural Emergency Account
- Continued funding for the Soil Health Financial Assistance Program
- Increased appropriations for the wolf and elk depredation/crop damage accounts
- Continued investment for the Agriculture Growth, Research, and Innovation Program (AGRI) and the following programs housed within AGRI:
 - Biofuels Infrastructure Grant
 - County Fair Grant
 - Farm-to-School and Early Care Programs
 - Livestock Protection Grant
 - Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Processing Grant
- Continued aid for county fairs and county agricultural societies
- Continued dollars to the Center for Rural Policy and Development
- Continued support for rural mental health resources and farm safety grants
- Strong investment in the Agriculture Research, Education, Extension and Technology Transfer Program (AGREETT) and the following programs housed within AGREETT:
 - Additional funding for the Farm Business Management (FBM) Program
 - New funding for the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership (MARL) Program
- Additional support for the Minnesota Agricultural Education and Leadership Council (MAELC)
- Continued investment into the Dairy Development and Profitability Enhancement Program
- Beginning Farmer Tax Credit limited liability company language

MFBF appreciates Chair Putnam's leadership in crafting a strong, bipartisan agriculture budget. If there are any questions from members of the Committee, please reach out to Loren Dauer, Director of Public Policy, at loren.dauer@fbmn.org or Hunter Pederson, Public Policy Specialist, at hunter.pederson@fbmn.org. Thank you for your support of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Glessing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" being more prominent than the last name "Glessing".

Dan Glessing, President
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation