

Senator Putnam,

I am including letters and resolutions of support from across the state and country here. We ask that you please help amend the wild rice pesticide bill into the omnibus today. I want to note that over 50 organizations have signed two separate letters requesting that our state pass stronger protections. There is a letter of support from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and a resolution from the National Congress of American Indians calling for stronger protections to ensure wild rice can continue to exist and thrive. Representatives from two tribal nations appeared and spoke, asking for cooperation and action to protect wild rice. We are kindly asking with this legislation that the state stops knowingly killing the rice and allowing it to be killed. This bill is important because the state is violating our treaty-reserved rights by spraying poisons, like glyphosate, over our waterways, and permitting pesticides known to kill wild rice and harm human health. This is an urgent agricultural issue because we would not spray an organic farmer's field of food without their permission, and the same principle applies here. Not one person testified against this bill in person. Only two letters expressed concerns likely because wanting to feed our children food that does not contain poisons is rational, not radical.

This bill requires adding simple steps to the pesticide management plan, requires consultation, requires a report to MIAC, and directs the state to take special care to keep pesticides out of wild rice waters, creating action. We heard MDA clarify that wild rice waters have already been studied and that consultation should be taking place. That is what this bill aims to do, as well as provide actions that coordinate between the state and tribal nations to help fix this problem. I hope this helps clarify the issue from an agricultural perspective and that you can help advocate for this bill's inclusion.

The main issue is that the state actively applies chemical treatments to wild rice waters in treaty territory without tribal consent or consultation. Glyphosate and other harmful chemicals are applied by DNR and permitted for use in wild rice waters. Glyphosate is at the center of class action lawsuits because it likely harms human health, according to the [International Agency for Research on Cancer](#). We don't want poisons sprayed over our traditional food sources, and consultation and consent need to happen if that is being thought of by the state. According to the DNR, glyphosate is known to kill or control wild rice. 2-4-D has been shown to harm wild rice growth even at low concentrations, and is applied to wild rice waters. Attached is a document summarizing this with sources cited

please ask that lawmakers read it if they want to know more. The SF5073 note includes those links. :)

Miigwech,

Leanna Goose

Rise & Repair