

April 29, 2026

Chair John Marty
Finance Committee
1200 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue W
St. Paul, MN 55155



RE: SF 4504 (Frentz), as amended — Support from Central Farm Service

Chair Marty and Committee Members,

On behalf of Central Farm Service (CFS) and the farmers we are proud to serve across southern Minnesota, I'm writing to express our strong support for the ammonia-related provisions included in SF 4504, as amended.

CFS is a farmer-owned cooperative, which means everything we do starts with and comes back to our members. Right now, those farmers are navigating tight margins, unpredictable markets, and increasing pressure to manage risk wherever they can. One of the biggest challenges they continue to face is fertilizer, specifically ammonia. Nearly all of it is produced outside of Minnesota and shipped in, leaving our farmers exposed to volatile pricing, supply disruptions, and global events that they have no control over. When ammonia prices spike or tighten, it directly impacts their ability to plan, invest, and operate with confidence.

Our farmers don't need a theoretical solution; they need something practical that works in the real world. That's why this effort matters.

Minnesota is uniquely positioned to produce ammonia closer to where it's used. We have the demand, the infrastructure, and the renewable energy resources, especially wind, that often go underutilized. In our communities, we see curtailed energy not as a technical issue, but as a missed opportunity for our farmers and rural economies. Converting that energy into a reliable fertilizer source right here in Minnesota is a common-sense step forward.

CFS is actively working to be part of that solution through our partnership with TalusAg, helping bring distributed ammonia production closer to the farm gate. From our perspective, this isn't just about innovation, it's about outcomes. It's about giving our farmers access to a more reliable supply, reducing exposure to outside forces, and creating the potential for long-term, stable pricing that allows them to plan ahead with greater certainty.

The provisions included in SF 4504—supporting research, infrastructure, siting, and demonstration—are critical steps toward making this real. They reflect a thoughtful investment in Minnesota's future that keeps value in our state, strengthens rural communities, and supports the farmers who are at the center of it all.

We appreciate the bipartisan leadership that has brought this forward and respectfully ask for your continued support of SF 4504, as amended.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your commitment to Minnesota agriculture.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Peterson
Central Farm Service
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