



Resources restored. Lives changed.

Dear Representative Kahn,

As you assemble the Legacy Act allocations for the 2013 Legislative Session, I would like to share some thoughts about the advantages of prudent and cost effective use of the funds in concert with Conservation Corps Minnesota.

Conservation Corps Minnesota has not received dollars directly but in collaboration with both the Board of Water and Soil Resources and DNR Parks and Trails. In both instances language in the bill directed the agencies to contract for services with the Corps:

- “ The commissioner shall contract for services with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, and other activities under this section for at least \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year.” This was with MN. DNR . We have an agreement with DNR for work and the use of these dollars.
- “ The board shall contract for services with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, and other activities under this section for \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year.” This language relates to BWSR and its grant program. We have an agreement with the agency.

Both of the levels of allocation are in the Governor’s recommendation.

In the past Legacy bills, this language has also been included in the Lessard -Sams Outdoor Heritage article ;

- “A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to and make timely written contact with Conservation Corps Minnesota for possible uses of the corps’ services to contract for restoration and enhancement services. A copy of the written contract must be filed with the Lessard-Sams Outdoor heritage Council within 15 days of execution.” We support the continuation of this language.

These provisions have helped the Corps with its work opportunities and thus the number of corpsmembers that we have been able to engage in our crews in a

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work year. It has been a significant factor in the growth in our Corps enrollment giving our crews increased fee for service/partner support opportunities. With these provisions in the bill we can continue that trend and look for additional opportunities to place more corpsmembers in the field helping public land management entities meet the challenges they face . It is a win-win situation: a cost effective nonprofit helping land managers meet their responsibilities to get the work done and getting youth and young adults exposed to the outdoors while learning job skills.

I am available for questions and further explanations at 612-306-8658 and len.price@conservationcorps.org. I appreciate your support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Len Price".

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