

MINNESOTA WATER WELL ASSOCIATION

Representing Minnesota's Water Well Drilling Industry

601 Dempsey Road • Westerville, OH 43081-8978 Phone (800) 332-2104 • Fax (614) 898-7786

e mail: mwwa@ngwa.org

web site: mwwa.org

RE: HF3006 - Water Well Testing

Representative Acomb and Committee members,

The Minnesota Water Well Association would like to thank you for your interest in making sure Minnesotans have access to clean, reliable drinking water. The MWWA and its members encourage well owners to regularly test their well water in accordance with Minnesota Department of Health guidance. Like the MDH, we encourage well owners to use professional, licensed laboratories to provide reliable and accurate results.

HF3006 raises concerns regarding appropriating money to non-licensed well testing activity. The water well industry does not support the activities bill HF3006 would encourage. There is an entire support network of professionals available to well owners across the state to test and correct any deficiencies in their drinking water. This network has been developed over many decades to ensure that Minnesotans have the resources they need to improve their water quality when necessary.

We believe the solution to improving the availability of testing lies within improving Minnesota's lab certification program. We gave a presentation to the subcommittee on water policy last October highlighting some of the improvements that could be made to increase water testing capacity across the state, particularly in rural areas. Taking steps to reduce the barriers to gain, or maintain, accredited lab credentials would increase testing capacity and reduce costs all while still maintaining high standards.

Efforts and funds should be focused on growing an existing network of accredited labs that continue to support safe access to potable water across the state!

Thank you for taking some time to read this, and please reach out to me or our lobbyist Bruce Kleven if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

David Schulenberg - Executive Director - MWWA

