



March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
House Capital Investment Committee  
Co-Chair Fue Lee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Co-Chair Lee and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association's nearly 7,000 members, we would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to provide written comments in support of the University of Minnesota's capital request to construct a new Campus Center at the Saint Paul Campus.

Through the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) and the University of Minnesota Extension, the University of Minnesota has been a strong supporter of Minnesota agriculture through education in the classroom and on the farm through its research efforts and farm financial management programs.

Minnesota Corn Growers Association maintains a strong partnership with the University of Minnesota's agricultural programs, working closely with CFANS and Extension. Through the farmer-funded corn checkoff, we invest approximately \$2.2 million annually in research and outreach focused on nitrogen efficiency, soil health, water quality, pest management and crop productivity. This collaboration keeps University research practical, science-based, and directly responsive to Minnesota farmers.

The University of Minnesota has long been a strong leader in agricultural education, but the Upper Midwest has several top agricultural university programs. Improvements to the Saint Paul campus will help CFANs attract and retain students, boost student success, and keep Minnesota competitive not only with students but with faculty. These updates are needed, and these investments show a commitment to the agricultural school and the dedication to having a strong agricultural economy in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of the Saint Paul Campus Center. If you have follow-up questions or would like to learn more about MCGA and our priorities please contact Alex Trunnell, Public Policy Manger, at [atrunnell@mncorn.org](mailto:atrunnell@mncorn.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wesley Beck".

Wesley Beck  
President  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association