

March 9, 2021

## **Submitted Electronically**

Chairperson Mike Sundin Vice-Chairperson Samantha Vang House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee 417 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

## RE: Minnesota House File 1543

Dear Chairperson Sundin, Vice-Chairperson Vang, and members of the House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee:

I am writing to you on behalf of the American Chemistry Council's (ACC) Center for Biocide Chemistries (CBC) in support of House File 1543, which would extend the expiration date of the current exemption from commercial pesticide applicator licensing for a person who is hired to apply general-use sanitizers and disinfectants to combat COVID-19.

The current public health crisis has resulted in an increased demand and need for disinfection services. This exemption allows more individuals to be hired to conduct disinfection to combat COVID-19 and clearly not be in violation of state law or state regulation that requires a commercial license for pesticide application, which by extension covers disinfectants and sanitizers. Disinfection against viruses and pathogens is critical to stop the spread of highly contagious pathogens. In a state of emergency, access to test centers and the ability to acquire licenses becomes challenging for individuals.

We appreciate the committee's consideration of this letter of support.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at <u>Komal\_Jain@americanchemsitry.com</u> or (202) 249-6212.

Sincerely,

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Komal K. Jain Executive Director Center for Biocide Chemistries