



April 19, 2022

Chair Torrey Westrom  
Agriculture and Rural Development Finance and Policy Committee  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3201  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Mike Sundin  
House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee  
417 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 3420 (Sundin) and SF 3479 (Westrom) Drought Relief Conference Committee

Chair Westrom, Chair Sundin, and members of the committee,

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) appreciates the opportunity to share written testimony on behalf of our nearly 30,000 members in support of a drought relief package that will provide much needed resources for Minnesota farmers and ranchers. Thank you for your work on providing much needed drought relief to Minnesota farmers and ranchers.

The drought is long over for many, but for family farmers and ranchers across the state the impacts continue. Throughout the Committees' work on this topic, you have heard some of our members' stories about the continued impacts they are facing. It is clear the effects from the drought continue and relief is needed.

We urge this committee to work quickly to provide grants and loans to livestock farmers and specialty crop producers. The additional money for the Rural Finance Authority will also help to assist with needed cash flow for many farmers and ranchers that are still finding a path forward. By providing resources through the rapid relief grants and funds for the Rural Finance Authority's loan program, we can target help to where it's needed most-specific items like feed assistance, water hauling and handling, fencing supplies and more that will provide tangible resources needed on our farms and ranches. These funds are critical to help farmers start the spring planting season with optimism, while recouping some of the losses from additional challenges presented by circumstances out of their control from the previous year.

Thank you,

Dan Glessing  
President

Physical Address: 3080 Eagandale Place, Eagan, MN 55121-2118    Mailing Address: P.O. Box 64370, St. Paul, MN 55164-0370

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Phone: 651.768.2100    Email: [info@fbmn.org](mailto:info@fbmn.org)    [www.fbmn.org](http://www.fbmn.org)