



March 13, 2025

Chair Paul Anderson
Minnesota Agriculture Finance and Policy
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for nitrate mitigation in private wells (HF821)

Chair Anderson and committee members,

As you consider general fund appropriations for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, we urge you to support funding for nitrate mitigation in private wells as recommended in HF821.

This funding would provide in-home water treatment systems, or well repair and reconstruction for domestic wells with elevated nitrate in southeastern Minnesota. In this vulnerable region, an estimated 9,200 people rely on drinking water from private wells that does not meet federal health standards for nitrate.

We believe that providing safe drinking water to rural Minnesotans – especially those who cannot afford to treat their water or replace a contaminated well – should be a top priority for our state.

With state agencies now implementing the public health intervention phase of the [Work Plan: Addressing Nitrate in Southeast Minnesota](#), this appropriation will build on the important work accomplished last session. We appreciate your support in providing clean drinking water to those who need it most.

Thank you for considering this recommendation, and for your work for the State of Minnesota.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Stockness".

Michelle Stockness, PE
Executive Director, Freshwater