

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Yi Her and I farm in Glenwood City, WI. The LEAFF program helps us small farmers survive and helps us not to waste our produce. The LEAFF program should continue because it's such an encouragement for small farmers and gives us hope and a future, please don't stop. We've been so blessed with the LEAFF program and The Good Acre, it has changed us small farmers so much financially and has benefitted us farmers so much as far as our crops.

Yi Her

225 15th Ave S

South St. Paul, MN, 55075

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Javier Garcia I farm on Agua Gorda Farm in Long Prairie, MN. LEAFF buys extra produce from me and I think we need to help other people put food out on their tables. That helps me and my farm to get extra money.

Javier Garcia
23638 230th St
Long Prairie, MN 56347

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Ma Vang and I have a farm in Hastings, MN. I like the LEAFF program a lot, it helped a lot for selling things that I couldn't sell in other places. I would like the LEAFF program to continue. It's very good for my farm business.

Sincerely,
Ma Vang
826 Morgan Ave North
Minneapolis, MN 55411

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is See Thao and I farm in Corcoran, MN. I would like extra funding for the LEAFF program. Because of it, we are able to sell all of our produce and waste nothing on our farm.

See Thao
5301 77th Ave N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

Hello, my name is Joyce Kingoina and I have a farm in Lino Lakes. I like everything about the LEAFF program. I didn't have a market. It saved me from wasting my produce and people on the other end get my food and I can make money. The income from LEAFF keeps my farming business sustainable and helps me to pay a few bills and invest back in my farm. Oh god I hope the LEAFF program continues and it would be great to have a guarantee that is more than \$5000. That money goes a long way, and it especially benefits us emerging farmers. The Good Acre is who held out a hand and helped us learn how to sell wholesale. Thank you for supporting this program.

Joyce Koingina
6407 Camden Avenue North Apt 202
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Jesus Carrillo and I farm in Foley, MN. I like the fact that LEAFF gives us the opportunity to sell any produce that we have extra so we don't put it to waste. Please keep supporting the farmers and new market opportunities for us.

Jesus Carrillo
9366 135th Avenue NE
Foley, MN 56329

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Pheng Yang and I farm in Montgomery, MN. I like that you can basically sell any type of produce to the LEAFF program. I would like LEAFF to continue. It is a really great program, it helps people like me.

Pheng Yang
6401 Florida Ave N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Naima Dhore and I farm in Alexandria, MN. The LEAFF program really helped us last year. It was a boost of motivation that helped us in a year when we transitioned from one farm in the Twin Cities to another in Alexandria. It helped me to start up the new farm and transition without the need to fully commit to a contract, so we could bring anything we had grown.

I'd like LEAFF to continue, it is an incredible partnership. I'm moving to another farm again, and for new emerging farmers LEAFF gives them a boost of confidence that you have a market. \$5000 can go fast but it is also a good size commitment for those who are new. Please increase the funding for LEAFF, it's a great program so more farmers can access it and expand.

Naima Dhore
2276 E Lake Jessie RD SE
Alexandria, MN 56308

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Mai Lee and I farm in Vermillion, MN. I like the LEAFF program because they help you and you don't have to waste produce. Once they started to help me, I could sell them everything and now I don't have to lose produce or waste food. I want LEAFF to continue forever.

Sincerely,

Mai Lee
2692 Geranium Ave E
Maplewood, MN 55119

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Der Thao and I farm in Hampton and Rosemount, MN. I like LEAFF because they actually bought produce from us, we are able to send it to them and it helps if we have too much produce. It would help us a lot with time, we would rather sell it to LEAFF than to put it out in the market.

Der Thao
425 Schletty Lane
West St. Paul, MN 55118

February 28, 2023

Dear Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell, and members of the committee,

My name is Naton Vang and I farm in Rosemount, MN. I love LEAFF because they don't mind about the size of the produce or bunches, they help you learn the growing standards, and they accept any kind of veggies we grow. The LEAFF program is easy for us because they will take anything we have extra in the field, so you don't lose or waste anything. It's a lot of help. I'd like it to continue! I love it, when we started our farm we knew that our produce would go to The Good Acre. It feels good to know the place it's going to and that LEAFF produce is helping those in other communities.

Naton Vang
1115 York Avenue, Apt 11
Saint Paul, MN 55106