

February, 28<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Support for bill SF 1760, Farm to school program.



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Feb 28th, 2023  
To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center, I would like to offer my support for bill SF 1760, Farm to school program establishment and appropriation. Northwestern Juvenile Center has a school within its walls, named 'First City School' our physical location is Bemidji Minnesota. We are located in a very rural area, but our Center houses youth from all over Minnesota. With an enrollment of 55 on average, ages 10-19.

We have participated in farm-to-school programming for approximately 2 years. The passage of this bill would allow us to further explore and create new farm-to-school partnerships with farmers in our community and provide an opportunity to expand our kitchen programming for our youth. Unlike a normal school, our children live here full-time. So with the help of this opportunity, we have offered many new foods to our youth. Over the last 2 years, the extra funds have helped us start a salad bar, and do cooking classes for our youth. While maintaining our budget and fiscal responsibility to our Community. It has been a wonderful program, which has really opened up the door to many other opportunities. Our youth are incredibly thankful. I am incredibly thankful.

We fully support this bill and look forward to growing the farm-to-school program because it is what's best for our students and our community.  
Sincerely,

Erica Fauchald  
NMJC Food Service Supervisor  
Bemidji MN, 56601