



February 22, 2022

Chair Mike Sundin

House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Sundin and members of the committee:

On behalf of Land Stewardship Project's (LSP) 4,500 household members, I write in strong support of the micro-farm bill brought forward by Vice-Chair Vang to provide micro-farms risk management premium assistance grants to participating producers and provides technical assistance grants to the Hmong American Farmers Association and Latino Economic Development Center regarding the USDA's micro-farm risk management program and micro-farm premium assistance program (HF 3264).

In October 2021 the United States Department of Agriculture introduced a new insurance option specifically for agricultural producers with small farms who sell to local markets. The micro-farm policy simplifies record keeping and covers post-production costs like washing and value-added products. Because the micro-farm coverage is a new program targeting farmers who may be applying for crop insurance coverage for the first time, additional financial and technical assistance is necessary for eligible farmers to take advantage of this program. This bill provides this needed assistance and would allow eligible farms to utilize the new micro-farm policy.

Thank you to Vice-Chair Vang for leading this work. I appreciate your consideration and hope to see the committee's support.

Sincerely,
Sarah Goldman
LSP Policy Organizer
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The Land Stewardship Project (LSP) is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1982 to foster an ethic of stewardship for farmland, to promote sustainable agriculture, and to develop healthy communities. LSP is dedicated to creating transformational change in our food and farming system. LSP's work has a broad and deep impact, from new farmer training and local organizing, to federal policy and community based food systems development. At the core of all our work are the values of stewardship, justice, democracy, health and community.