

# Roots Return Heritage Farm LLC



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**To: Minnesota State House Members Agricultural Finance and Policy Committee, Chair Vang, Vice-Chair Pursell**

**RE: Support for-**

**HF 1150 (Hansen, R) Registration for pesticide containing perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance prohibited**

**HF 1317 (Hansen, R) Terms defined; Use, storage, disposal, and sale of pesticide-treated seed regulated; label statements for pesticide-treated seed required; consumer guidance required; rulemaking required; and money appropriated**

**HF 2472 (Hansen, R) New program for systemic pesticide-treated seed established, new account in agricultural fund established and money appropriated.**

Greetings Members of the Committee:

Please accept my letter of support for the above-mentioned bills before you.

I serve on advisory boards for my local **County Water Mgmt. Org, MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program, and BODs for MN Institute for Sustainable Ag, and MN Ag in the Classroom**. I lease land to food farmers in Carver County; those who specialize in direct market production of fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Many of these high nutritive value products are reliant on pollination to fruit and flourish. When pollinators decline due to herbicide drift causing lack of forage, and become sick or die from neonic pesticides coated onto commodity monocrops, specialty crops and economic outlook for those producers is greatly reduced. This causes undue hardship for this sector of agriculture and direct market recipients such as schools, consumers, institutions, and food shelves throughout Minnesota.

These bills together allow all to better understand how much of this class of pesticides has found its way from soils, field edges, into our surface waters and groundwater. This affects Minnesotans weather rural, suburban, or rural. The EPA, MDA, MPCA have provided reports discussing negative effects of neonic pesticides in water, as well as MDH Biomonitoring studies in children and U of MN Research on domestic and wild pollinators.

[Surface Water Pesticide Water Quality Monitoring | Minnesota Department of Agriculture \(state.mn.us\)](#)

[Minnesota Biomonitoring: Chemicals in People - MN Dept. of Health \(state.mn.us\)](#)

[Slide 1 \(umn.edu\)](#)

Registering and tracking neonic treated seed sold in MN will enable transparency of these chemicals will inform agency monitoring & reporting now and in the future. Remember, all seeds sold prior to coated seed manufacture were not treated directly with dust coatings, adjuvants, of PFAS/PFOS applications. Industry groups try to threaten if we track neonic seed sales, this may lead to retailers and farmers having to revert back to much more toxic applications. There have been alternative seed planting practices available for decades federally and locally, and still today. MDA and other industry groups promote soil health principles, integrated pest management practices, equipment grants, sustainability, and offer education about pesticides and pollinators for years.

Your **YES** vote helps ensure Minnesota's investment in transparency and commitment to agency missions. Thank you.