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March 1, 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 –

The Minnesota Crop Production Retailers (MCPR) is a nonprofit organization representing agricultural retailers and distributors, crop input suppliers, crop advisors, and registrants who supply farmers and producers with a host of products and services. We thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of House File 1886 authored by Rep. Backer.

MCPR has appreciated the opportunity to participate in the ACRRRA stakeholder meetings in 2021 which were convened as a result of action taken by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2021 legislative session. The legislation required that ACRRRA stakeholder meetings be held last fall to discuss a possible change in the ACRRRA statute regarding the maximum reimbursement or payment amount.

MCPR members are active participants in the ACRRRA program, but we do have concerns with the current ACRRRA cap reimbursement amounts which we believe are too low and would be addressed by House File 1886. MCPR is supportive of increasing the ACRRRA cap to adjust for the effects of inflation and would note that we were also supportive of the licensing surcharges that took effect earlier this year to bolster the ACRRRA fund balance to enable the remediation of eligible sites.

MCPR's members have sophisticated their operating standards over the years and we pride ourselves on being good stewards of the environment and to our local communities. The ACRRRA program has helped to remediate many sites that experience a chemical incident, however the significant costs associated with a clean-up can quickly add up. Again, MCPR is supportive of House File 1886 and we appreciate the opportunity to provide this input to you and your fellow committee members.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Executive Director
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers