



THE GOOD ACRE
FOOD + COMMUNITY

March 25, 2022

Dear Chair Noor, Vice-Chair Xiong, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of The Good Acre, a nonprofit food hub in Falcon Heights, MN, I'd like to request your support for HF 1332 which would establish a headwaters community food and water economic resiliency program.

As the one of only three food hubs in the state of Minnesota, we know firsthand that our local farmers have the talent and the capacity to grow more food. Last year alone, we moved \$1.2M worth of locally grown produce, eggs, meat, and value-added goods through our warehouse and to wholesale food buyers throughout our community. The demand for local food is rising, and HF 1332 would lay a framework that would support rural and urban producers with the technical assistance they need to meet an increasing demand while also being the best stewards of the land they can be.

A resilient food supply must also be a safe food supply. Accessible places to wash, sort, pack, store, and distribute local food are critical to creating a decentralized food system that is compliant with federal and state food safety regulations. HF 1332 proposes financial and technical assistance for existing and future food hubs which provide this kind of critical infrastructure in the communities they serve.

Our reliance on the industrial food system perpetuate practices that deplete the soil and contaminate our water supply. We support legislation that would aid in the creation of a food system that centers community health, environmental health, and racial justice. Funding HF 1332 will be a big step forward in creating that kind of food system in Minnesota. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Nikki Warner
Communications Director
nikki@thegoodacre.org
612-787-5969

