



Summary

Issue: **Funding for Farm-To-School Administrative Support, Technical Assistance, Training, And Grant Program (HF 811/SF 1346)**

LWV Minnesota: **Supports**

Testimony

The League of Women Voters Minnesota urges members to vote in favor of this bill because:

- It supports family-owned, moderate- and small-sized farms and beginning farmers.
- It provides technical assistance in business planning and development, institutional food procurement standards and requirements, postharvest handling practices including the development of food safety and good agricultural practices, plans, and food production processes to these farmers as they learn.
- It supports educational programs that connect school children to agriculture, so they learn food doesn't come from grocery stores.
- It creates access to markets for local, small and moderate sized farms. By creating broader markets and providing assistance in best management practices, it creates opportunities for innovative practices and crops for moderate and small-sized farms.

Not only does it support small to mid-sized local farmers, this bill indirectly relates to a necessary adaptation to climate change as it reduces the carbon footprint of food going to schools by reducing the transportation/mileage that food is trucked.

About LWV

The League of Women Voters is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public. We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy