



April 2, 2025

House Agriculture Finance & Policy Committee  
Co-Chair Paul Anderson  
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

House Agriculture Finance & Policy Committee  
Co-Chair Rick Hansen  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Co-Chair Anderson, Co-Chair Hansen and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association's (MCGA) nearly 7,000 members thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HF 2916, which proposes funding for a Southeast regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative.

HF 2916 proposes to expand the popular and farmer-developed Olmstead County groundwater protection and soil health program, and replicate its success in ten other southeast Minnesota counties. Using the Olmstead County program as a model for other counties to implement in southeast Minnesota, which has geology making it more susceptible to nitrate impacts, can lead to longer-term improvements in water quality and soil health.

The Olmstead County program offers a mix of eligible practices, proven to help minimize water quality impacts and improve soil health, southeast Minnesota farms can implement through cost-share assistance. Scaling-up this program in other southeast Minnesota can expand the positive impact of this program.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to reach out to MCGA's Senior Public Policy Director Amanda Bilek at 952-460-3604 or at [abilek@mncorn.org](mailto:abilek@mncorn.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Kantan".

Jim Kantan  
President  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association