



Goodhue County SWCD  
104 East 3rd Ave, P.O. Box 335  
Goodhue, MN 55027  
651-923-5286 Ext. 4  
[www.goodhueswcd.org](http://www.goodhueswcd.org)

March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025

Representative Anderson, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Hansen, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5th Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), I write to respectfully urge your support for HF 2916. Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Goodhue County SWCD would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beau Kennedy".

Beau Kennedy  
Goodhue SWCD Manager

4/1/2025

**Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)**

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Mower Soil and Water Conservation District, I write to respectfully urge your support for [HF 2916](#). Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Mower County would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

 4/1/2025

Cody Fox



## Rice Soil and Water Conservation District

302 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. NW Faribault, MN 55021  
Phone: (507) 332-5408 [www.riceswcd.org](http://www.riceswcd.org)

March 31, 2025

Representative Anderson, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Hansen, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

### Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Rice Soil and Water Conservation District, I write to respectfully urge your support for [HF 2916](#). Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Rice SWCD would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

  
Steven Pahs  
District Manager



## **Root River Soil and Water Conservation District**

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

**(507) 724-5261 ext. 3**

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

March 31, 2025

Representative Anderson, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Hansen, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

### **Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)**

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Root River SWCD, I write to respectfully urge your support for [HF 2916](#). Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Houston County would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

Root River SWCD



611 Broadway Avenue, Suite 10  
Wabasha, MN 55981  
Phone: (651) 565-4673

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March 31, 2025

Representative Anderson, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Hansen, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)**

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Wabasha County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), I write to respectfully urge your support for [HF 2916](#). Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Wabasha County SWCD would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. There has been a good number of inquiries and conversations since Olmsted has started implementing their program. Some Wabasha County landowners also own land in Olmsted County. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water, and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

*Lynn Zabel*

Wabasha County Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors

By Lynn Zabel, Chair



April 1, 2025

Representative Anderson, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Hansen, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Support for SE Regional Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative (HF 2916)**

Dear Chair Anderson, Chair Hansen, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Wabasha County, we write to respectfully urge your support for [HF 2916](#). Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment.

HF 2916 provides funding to implement a regional groundwater protection and soil health initiative in southeast Minnesota where karst geology is prevalent and groundwater is susceptible to contamination, like nitrate.

The funding will be used to expand a cost-share program piloted by Olmsted County to 10 other counties in the region. The program promotes a variety of management practices that will help reduce nitrate leaching on agricultural land. It has demonstrated success and adoption by producers - approximately 25% of producers in Olmsted County enrolled in the program in 2024 and more are anticipated in 2025.

Wabasha County would like to provide our farmers with an opportunity to enroll in a program like this. We know the groundwater in our region is vulnerable to contamination and believe this program will have tremendous benefits for our water and soil resources.

Thank you for your consideration of HF 2916. Communities across the entire region will benefit from this investment which will have long-term impacts for safer and cleaner drinking water and it will also help preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

*Cheryl Key*

*Dale Springer*

*Phyllis Parson*

*Mike Libby*

*John Walsh*