



THE 2023-2024 PLATFORM REPORT TO THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

To: Chair - Rep. Samantha Vang HD 38B
Vice-Chair – Rep. Kristi Pursell HD 58A

Rep. Ethan Cha	HD 47B	Rep. Luke Frederick	HD 18B
Rep. Rick Hansen	HD 53B	Rep. Lucy Rehm	HD 48B
Rep. Samantha Sencer-Mura	HD 63A	Rep. Brad Tabke	HD 54A
Rep. Liz Olson	HD 08A		

The resolutions listed below are from part of our DFL platform, known as the Action Agenda and have been identified as potentially being relevant to the work of your committee. The support for each resolution is given; the number of Congressional Districts and Organizing Units backing the resolution, and the percentage of approval by the delegates to the State Convention.

Soil Health and Regenerative Farming

Support funding to provide accessible grants and direct payments to farmers, as well as funds for research, technical assistance, and education, to establish and sustain soil health practices such as utilizing perennial crops, rotational grazing, cover crops, and no-till farming. Set a statewide goal to reach 5.75 million acres of farmland with soil-health practices by 2030, 11.5 million acres by 2035, and 23 million acres by 2040. Invest in rural communities and our food and farming system, to conserve and build healthy soils, clean our water, sequester carbon, and bolster farm income. [8 CDs, 85 OUs, 85%]

Rural Infrastructure

Support building the infrastructure needed by small and mid-sized farms in rural and urban communities to create regional food systems that support regenerative farming and provide all people with the nourishing foods they want and need, including investment in small business development and transitions, processing infrastructure, and marketing of goods and specialty crops.[8 CDs,30 OUs,84%]

Fair Payments for Agricultural Land Use

support adequate payment to farmer landowners when taking land out of production for buffer strips and waterways, with incentives to set up alternative agriculture production systems including haying and grazing. [7 CDs, 22 OUs, 78%]

Prevention of Rural and Urban Food Deserts

support innovative programs to identify and prevent rural and urban food deserts by establishing food coops and/or small independent grocery stores in both rural and urban communities through grants and/or tax credits. [7 CDs, 19 OUs, 82%]

Large Scale Animal Operation Accountability

Commit to holding large-scale animal agricultural operations accountable for the pollution they create and the environmental and community costs of their production practices; and to fight any attempt to weaken Minnesota’s existing local control regulations. [8 CDs, 26 OUs,72%]

Community Food & Water Resiliency

Support a sustainable, statewide, locally adapted food economy from source-to-table that is designed to be inclusive, expands SNAP benefits and helps create health and well-being for all people in rural and urban communities, including under-served communities such as Black, Indigenous, and immigrant communities, and the rural poor. [5 CDs, 9 OUs, 81%]

Dismantle racial, gender, and economic injustice

Support taking bold action to dismantle racial, gender and economic injustice in our democracy, institutions, and public programs. [7 CDs, 14 OUs, 84%]

Border-To-Border

Support the implementation and expansion of the Border-to-Border statewide broadband initiative (1) by providing stable multi-year funding, (2) by eliminating corporate-monopoly sponsored restrictions, obstacles, and preemptions, (3) by encouraging municipalities, (4) facilitate stronger Native Nations broadband access, and (5) go "the last mile" ensuring that no one is left behind. [8 CDs, 51 OUs, 88%]

Unsafe Pesticides

Support policies to reduce or eliminate the use of unsafe pesticides such as glyphosate, neonicotinoids, and chlorpyrifos in agriculture and on recreational land or lawns and require any business selling plants to let the public know whether or not the plant has been treated in any way with systemic pesticides from the neonicotinoid family. [8 CDs, 47 OUs, 83%]

Meat Processing, Competition in Livestock Industry

support more competition in the meat processing industry through enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act, promoting meat cutting programs at vocational schools, and grants to local butcher shops to expand their businesses to compete with the major packers. [4 CDs, 14 OUs, 73%]

Fully Fund School Meals

Support full funding for all nutrition programs at public schools including, but not limited to healthy food at breakfast, lunch, and snack time. [5 CDs, 9 OUs, 94%]

Legalize Marijuana

Supports the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana in a manner similar to that of tobacco or alcohol, the pardoning of those currently incarcerated for related offenses, and the retroactive expungement of criminal records for related offenses. [8 CDs, 30 OUs, 83%]

Green New Deal

Supports a Green New Deal to rapidly cut greenhouse gas emissions and provide an equitable energy future, establishing millions of high paying jobs, affordable housing, investing in multi-modal transportation options; to provide clean air and water, healthy food, and a sustainable environment for all. [7 CDs, 35 OUs, 80%]

Right to Repair Laws

Support Right to Repair Laws to protect consumers from manufacturers that restrict the ability of third party and self-repair of their products (like farm tractors or cell phones) that are already purchased. [3 CDs, 5 OUs, 80%]

Electric Cooperatives

Support legislative oversight of Minnesota's member-owned electric cooperatives to improve transparency and ensure there is opportunity for input from members before key decisions are made that affect asset management, member payments, or climate impacts. [4 CDs, 09 OUs, 72%]

Zero-Carbon

Support a transition to 100% clean electricity by 2040 as part of a plan that reduces racial, gender & economic disparities and provides high paying jobs, while cutting greenhouse gasses by 45% by 2030 and to "net zero" by 2050. We support a massive shift in electricity generation towards a future powered by wind, solar, storage, and a modern electrical grid that will power our homes, businesses, and transportation. [8 CDs, 59 OUs, 78%]

We present this report as a summary of the passion of our grass roots, a vision of our caring society. We appreciate your support for the DFL's legislative priorities as you move forward this session. Thank you for supporting the people of Minnesota.