

MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON Agriculture and Rural Development/Natural Resources

DATE: March 21, 2023

Chair Brixie called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, Mentzer, Borton, and Alexander were present.

Representative Puri moved to adopt the minutes of the March 7, 2023 meeting. The motion was adopted without objection.

The subcommittee heard testimony on the Securing Environmentally Sustainable Michigan Agriculture (SESMA) Initiative. The presentation was made by representatives of Michigan State University: MSU AgBioResearch Director, Dr. George Smith; and MSU Extension Director, Dr. Quentin Tyler. Members were provided a two-page summary of the proposal.

After the MSU presentation, the following persons spoke in support of the SESMA initiative:

- Juliette King McAvoy, Cherry Marketing Institute Board, MDARD Commissioner
- Doug Darling, SE Michigan Field Crops, Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors
- Bruce Klamer, V&W Farms, Chair of the Michigan Onion Committee

The following persons provided written support for the SESMA initiative:

- Kelly Turner, Ed.D., CAE; Executive Director, Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.
- Jamie Clover Adams, Michigan Asparagus Association
- Chuck Lippstreu, Michigan Agribusiness Association (MABA)

The following persons submitted cards in support of the SESMA initiative:

- Andrew Vermeesch, Michigan Farm Bureau
- Gregory W. Bird, M, Michigan Vegetable Council
- Amy Upton, Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association

Copies of the MSU Summary and the letters of support are included in the official HFA minutes and are posted to the [House Fiscal Agency website](#).

Chair Brixie supported using a different name for the initiative: Solving Emerging Environmental Developments and Securing Sustainability (SEEDSS).

Chair Brixie noted that the subcommittee had been invited by MSU on a tour of campus agriculture research facilities – April 27, 2023.

Chair Brixie then adjourned the meeting, without objection, the time being 10:00 AM.

Minutes taken by William E. Hamilton, House Fiscal Agency
Approved: April 11, 2023