



MCPR Legislative Positions 2025-2026

Invest in 4R Certification for Ag Retailers and Establish Incentive Payments

- Support state-funded payments to ag retail facilities seeking to become 4R Nutrient Stewardship Certified.
- Provide incentive payments to 4R Nutrient Stewardship Certified ag retailers based on documented acreage implementing soil health, precision agriculture and nutrient management strategies.
- Provide incentive payments for utilizing Certified Crop Advisers (CCA).

Crop Protection and Nutrient Product Fees

- Support the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) management of ag chemical and fertilizer fees.
- Oppose increasing state taxes and fees on agricultural fertilizer and crop protection products.
- Protect the Agricultural Fertilizer Education and Research Council (AFREC) fund from budget diversions.

MDA Jurisdiction and Local Ordinances

- Maintain MDA's jurisdiction over agricultural regulations.
- Oppose local restrictions on the sale, use or transportation of crop production inputs.
- Advocate for maintaining the statewide preemption of local ordinances regarding these inputs.

Crop Input Management

- Support voluntary Best Management Practices (BMPs) and increased education for producers and retailers.
- Oppose the requirement of voluntary BMPs in state or federal permits.

Pollinator Health and Crop Protection

- Support practical research on pests, bee biology and habitat enhancement.
- Advocate for responsible use of crop protection products and stewardship practices.

Biotechnology and Seed Issues

- Oppose restrictions on biotechnology crop use and mandatory labeling of biotech-containing foods.
- Oppose unnecessary additional state regulation of seed treatment linked to pollinator protection.

Agricultural Chemical Response and Reimbursement Account (ACRRA) Fund

- Support the ACRRA fund for environmental cleanup and advocate for fair funding from all retailers.

Crop Protection Product Use

- Continue to support the federal EPA/FIFRA science-based approach to regulating the sale, use and distribution of pesticides.
- Collaborate with MDA for science-based pesticide registration and oppose unwarranted regulations.

Crop Nutrient Use

- Promote scientific, field-verified revisions to the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan.
- Encourage educational programs for efficient fertilizer application based on validated research.

Security of Ag Products

- Support efforts to prevent the illegal use of crop production inputs without adding burdensome regulations.

On-Farm Liquid and Dry Bulk Storage

- Advocate for on-farm storage rules, ensuring environmental protection during storage and in case of product release.
- Responsibility for proper storage, spill mitigation, and spill reporting should transfer with product possession/ownership.

Biofuel Economy Development

- Support agricultural producers in biofuel development for economic, energy, and environmental benefits.

Agricultural Transportation Drivers Hours of Service

- Support changes in state and federal laws to extend exemptions during spring and fall fieldwork.

Pesticides Spray Drift Policies

- Support a risk-based standard and oppose vague concepts that might reduce available cropland.

Buffer Laws and Initiatives

- Commend compliance with buffer laws, support local county authority, and oppose legislation removing local discretion.

Agricultural Retailers Association (ARA) Policy Position: Modern Ag Crop Production Technologies

The federal government must make decisions based on sound science, peer-reviewed data, and by following a risk-based approach to avoid stripping away the critical crop input supplies (fertilizers, pesticides, biostimulants, seed, etc.) and precision ag technologies that ag retailers provide to their farmer customers.

- Protect farmers' essential tools (seed, pesticide, fertilizer, biostimulants, precision ag technology);
- Support codifying pesticide registration oversight and regulations at the EPA and state agencies;
- Ensure government decisions are based on sound science and risk-based peer-reviewed data; and
- Invest in research and development to enhance crop yields and improve plant health.