

Chair Brian Clem and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Land Use

HB 2059 – We are a strong NO. Allows State Department of Agriculture to impose fee increases on certain licenses concerning food production.

This bill is presented as an extension of a sunset. In reality, this bill establishes a new finance bill since the prior sunset expired on July 1, 2018. As such, this bill requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

The bill is far reaching into food production at all levels allowing the State Department of Agriculture to impose increases on licensing fees for selling, operations, production, slaughtering, distribution, handling, shipping, establishments, storage, warehouse, retail, wholesale, you name it, this bill extends authority to impose and increase fees. All of which accumulates into higher food prices for the end-market that is passed on to consumers.

We represent various aspects of the food production industries and recognize how these fees multiply on several levels. We encourage a NO vote on HB 2059.

Donna Bleiler Fast Legacy