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November 26, 2024

Congresswoman Angie Craig  
2442 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Minnesota Farmers Union support for Congresswoman Craig as Ranking Member

Dear Congresswoman Angie Craig:

On behalf of Minnesota Farmer Union (MFU), I write to share our organization's strong support for your bid to serve as Ranking Member of the House Committee for Agriculture. Since you arrived in Washington you have been steadfast in your support of family farmers. Today, we are honored by your interest in deepening this important work as your caucus' lead on agriculture.

Our long, working relationship with you and your office gives us confidence that our members and farmers and ranchers across the country will benefit from your leadership as Ranking Member. When you arrived in Congress, you requested a seat on the Agriculture Committee and got to work establishing yourself as a leader on renewable fuels, strengthened supply chains, and rural development. But more broadly, a couple of qualities stand out:

- First, you listen to farmers and prioritize their perspectives. Once elected, you quickly convened a 'farmer advisory council,' where our members were able to help inform your work. You and your office are accessible, responsive, and effective.
- Second—and just as important—you're able to bring people together around common values and common-sense solutions. You represent a deeply purple district and just returned to Congress in a landslide victory in no small part due to your ability to reach across the aisle, and out to people who are weary of partisan posturing and gridlock. For many, you are a model for how to compromise without compromising your values.

Today, as many farmers struggle with input costs, the aftermath of severe weather, and uncertainty about trading relationships abroad, it will be meaningful to have the leadership of someone with a proven track record of bringing people together around bipartisan solutions. That will be key to delivering the next Farm Bill and for making sure that Congress is responsive to the needs and perspectives of family farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to share our strongest support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Wertish". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" being particularly prominent.

Gary Wertish  
President, Minnesota Farmers Union