HB 2181 – RELATING TO AGRICULTURE

Chair Creagan, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the intent of HB 2181 that establishes a foreign agriculture small equipment pilot project.

The idea behind the bill is worthy in that given the prevalence of small farms in the state, and the need to improve the technology used on those farms, and that typical farm equipment is not of the right size to be effective on small farms. The need for equipment of appropriate size is clear.

Based on the objective of this bill, we suggest an amendment where the task is given to a community college that has the proper shops to do the required retrofitting. This would also give students a useful educational experience that may be of benefit in their future endeavors.

We support the intent of HB 2181 with the suggested amendment.