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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Testimony on Assembly Bill 875

Thank you members of the Assembly Committee on Agriculture for allowing me to speak on this important bill today and to address the unique needs of rural Wisconsin.

Farmers are the backbone of this country, but for far too long we have taken them for granted. That is why I am proud to be a part of the Assembly package on Agriculture. This bill before you, AB 875, is a pivotal piece of legislation that will impact farmers directly. With this bill we are giving farmers and those who are self-employed the ability to deduct their health insurance from their taxes.

This bill lessens the limitation on a person's income tax deduction for health insurance payments made by those who are self-employed. This will help farmers since their jobs often require physical labor and is mentally exhausting with a growing rate of farmer suicide every day. Large farms and corporations are already able to do this. It is discriminatory to not allow small farms as well.

It's fallen upon us to help the small farms, those who have been there for us, have fed us, have elected us and who have trusted us to do what is right.

Again, I appreciate your time and consideration of this important legislation. Together, we can find creative solutions to help Wisconsinites and create opportunities for those around us.