

Sent: Monday, November 04, 2019 9:50 AM

To: 'Sen.Marklein@legis.wi.gov' <Sen.Marklein@legis.wi.gov>;
'Sen.Petrowski@legis.wisconsin.gov' <Sen.Petrowski@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: Letter of Support for Brad Pfaff as DATCP Secretary

Dear Senator Howard Marklein and Senator Jerry Petrowski,

As Chair and Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Revenue and Financial Institutions we at Organic Valley wanted to again share our support for Brad Pfaff's nomination to DATCP Secretary.

It is our understanding that a confirmation vote may proceed yet this week. Attached is our letter from February that we shared previously with the Committee.

We find Mr. Pfaff to be approachable and to have a strong understanding of food and farm issues informed by his work at FSA, as an agriculture aide for various offices, and as the son of a southwestern Wisconsin dairy farmer.

We have been dismayed to hear his nomination could be in jeopardy. It gives us pause to consider what other options there really would be for this position and how losing DATCP leadership would leave the agency rudderless for an extended period of time --- an especially worrisome outcome given the challenging agriculture economy where a fully functioning and stable DATCP is needed.

While we are not entirely sure what reservation might surround Mr. Pfaff's nomination we wanted to make sure and provide our perspective as a cooperative businesses based in the state with over 500 farm-members and nearly 700 employees in Wisconsin.

If you have any questions or feedback please feel to reach out.

Sincerely,

Adam Warthesen

Director of Government and Industry Affairs

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