



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 10:30 a.m. Room 519 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Lauwers, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Lauwers, Cole, Franz, Glardon, Johnson, Outman, Rendon, Courser, B. Roberts, Sheppard, Vaupel, Brunner, Darany, Talabi, Driskell, LaVoy, Garrett.

Representative Cole made a motion to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on April 15, 2015. No objections being offered, the minutes were accepted as presented.

Representative Victory introduced Ben Kudwa and Dave Smith, representing the Michigan Vegetable Council, who reviewed vegetable production and Michigan farms involved in growing vegetables; vegetable production by county acreage; potato production in Michigan as well as pickling cucumbers and other crops; that Michigan is the 7th largest vegetable producer in the U.S.; labor necessary and the farm labor crisis for crop production (social and economic); integrated crop management practices; the Michigan Vegetable Council; the Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO; the Food Safety Modernization Act; funding for MSU AgBio Research and MSU Extension; funding for MDARD; and transportation.

Subsequent to discussion, Chair Lauwers declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 11:21 a.m.

Representative Dan Lauwers, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538