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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Rep. Kitty Toll and House Appropriations Committee

From: House Agriculture and Forestry Committee

Date: September 1, 2020

Subject: Request for additional funding

The House Agriculture and Forestry Committee has three recommendations for strategic use of any funds still available for the FY2021 Budget.

- 1) Additional funds, as much as can be located, for the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative. After hearing testimony, it is our recommendation that these funds be focused on larger infrastructure projects, prioritized to try to break the bottleneck in slaughterhouse and processing facilities and to support forestry wood products infrastructure.
- 2) \$71,000 for Forests, Parks and Recreation. The funds will be used to reinstate seasonal interpreters in Spring 2021 (\$12,000); to pay for seasonal employees in 2021 (\$34,000); and to contract work to mitigate hazard trees in the parks (\$25,000).
- 3) \$100,000 of CRF money for the Farm to School program. These funds will be distributed to schools for equipment, materials and supplies to meet the demands from the pandemic for school meals and learning.

Thank you for your consideration.