



# IAM TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



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### Support for HF 2613/SF 2793 : Practical Irrigation Flexibility:

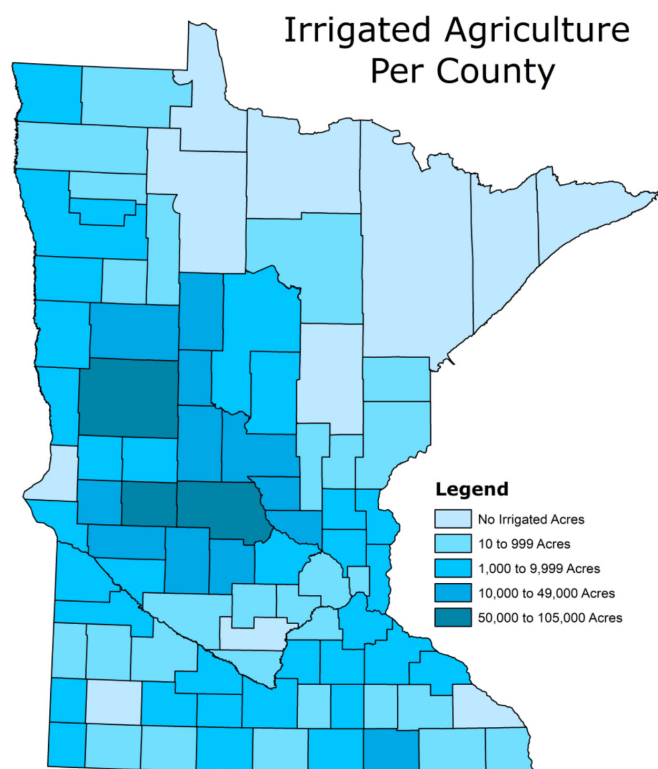
HF 2613/SF 2793 offers timely updates to Minnesota's water-use statutes. The bill allows transfer of unused irrigation gallons between compliant permit holders drawing from the same source, enables use of prior-year unused water during drought conditions, and supports additional water use for late-season cover crops. It also protects permit holders from new conditions during property transfers when all requirements are met. These changes promote flexibility, conservation, and responsible adaptation to seasonal challenges.

### Call for Transparent, Science-Based Regulation:

Concerns continue regarding the use of private hydrologic modeling to determine irrigation restrictions, particularly in the Little Rock Creek watershed. Greater transparency is needed in how models are applied, and the current 15% streamflow impact threshold should be reconsidered in favor of a more realistic 20% standard. Policy decisions must reflect both environmental priorities and agricultural realities.

### Ensuring Fairness in Jurisdictional Water Conflicts:

Emerging conflicts, such as those related to new tribal ordinances within the White Earth Reservation, raise important questions about equitable water access. It's critical that all permit holders are treated fairly and consistently across jurisdictions, with clear regulatory pathways.



769,196 total permitted irrigated acres in Minnesota

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## WHO WE ARE:

The Irrigators Association of Minnesota (IAM) is the state's only organization solely focused on irrigation. Founded in 1975, our membership includes farmers, irrigators, ag suppliers, educators, and conservation partners. IAM is supported entirely by voluntary dues and contributions, reflecting grassroots commitment to sustainable water management and agricultural success.

## OUR GOALS

**Educate & Promote** the benefits of irrigation for food security and rural economies

**Support** conservation and energy-efficient practices

**Advocate** for the right to irrigate through fair, science-based regulation

IAM LOCAL ASSOC	Membership 2024
Bonanza Valley	79
Central	124
Dairyland	22
East Central	53
Pomme de Terre	70
Southeast	89
Southern	29
Upper Miss	36
Industry	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>545</b>
<b>Members' Acres</b>	<b>259,717</b>

## MEMBERSHIP IMPACT

IAM members work together to shape practical, science-driven policies that support irrigated agriculture. Through meetings, demonstrations, and events, members help educate the public and policymakers about the role irrigation plays in Minnesota's economy and environment. Membership dollars directly fund research, innovation, and ongoing advocacy for responsible water use.

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