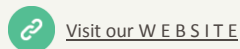
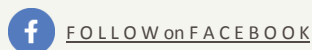




July 2018

MGGC ELSEWHERE



A Word from the Executive Director

Dear Members,

On behalf of Michigan Greenhouse Grower's Council (MGGC), Senator Stabenow has addressed crop insurance and indemnity to include greenhouses. The following language is included in the Senate passed version of the 2018 Farm Bill. MGGC was founded to pursue a remedy for loss of crop and indemnity for government ordered crop destruction. After many years of work on this issue, we are encouraged by the inclusion of the language below. Now we need your help. Please respond to this call to action.



Photo by: AP File Photo/J. Scott Applewhite

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3042/>

Section 11122

“(13) GREENHOUSE POLICY.—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—

“(i) *RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.*

—The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding a policy to insure in a controlled environment such as a greenhouse—

“(I) the production of floriculture, nursery, and bedding plants;

“(II) the establishment of cuttings or tissue culture in a growing medium; or

“(III) other similar production, as determined by the Secretary.

“(i) AVAILABILITY OF POLICY OR PLAN OF INSURANCE.—Notwithstanding the last sentence of section 508(a)(1), and section 508(a)(2), the Corporation shall make a policy or plan of insurance described in clause (i) available if the requirements of section 508(h) are met.

“(B) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DESCRIBED.—Research and development described in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the effectiveness of policies and plans of insurance for the production of plants in a controlled environment, including policies and plans of insurance that—

“(i) are based on the risk of—

“(I) plant diseases introduced from the environment;

“(II) contaminated cuttings, seedlings, or tissue culture; or

“(III) Federal or State quarantine or destruction orders associated with the contaminated items described in subclause (II);

“(ii) consider other causes of loss applicable to a controlled environment, such as a loss of electricity due to weather;

“(iii) consider appropriate best practices to minimize the risk of loss;

“(iv) consider whether to provide coverage for various types of plants under 1 policy or plan of insurance or to provide coverage for 1 species or type of plant per policy or plan of insurance;

“(v) have streamlined reporting and paperwork requirements that take into account short propagation schedules, variable crop years, and the variety of plants that may be produced in a single facility; and

“(vi) provide protection for revenue losses.

“(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

“(i) describes the results of the research and development conducted under subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B); and

“(ii) any recommendations with respect to those results

YOUR IMMEDIATE ACTION IS NEEDED

Please call your Congressional Representative and both Senators and tell them you support the Senate version of the 2018 Farm Bill and ask them to encourage the conference committee to support the Senate version of the 2018 Farm Bill.

Be sure to thank Senator Stabenow for her work on the Farm Bill and supporting the Michigan greenhouse industry.

Debbie Stabenow

Senior Senator for Michigan

202-224-4822

<https://www.stabenow.senate.gov/>

Gary Peters

Junior Senator for Michigan

202-224-6221

<https://www.peters.senate.gov/>

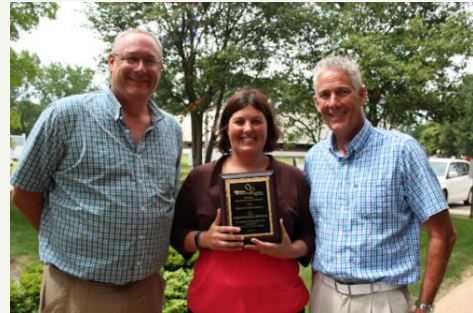
[Find your Michigan Representative](https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/MI#representatives)

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/MI#representatives>

Legislative Awards



MGGC President Bill Tuinier (right) and Vice-President Dave Mast (left) present State Representative Roger Victory with a plaque honoring and appreciating his legislative accomplishments and dedication to Michigan agriculture. Representative Victory, also a farmer, has been a tremendous ally to the Michigan greenhouse industry.



MGGC President Bill Tuinier and Vice-President Dave Mast present US Senator Debbie Stabenow with recognition of her 2018 Agriculture Accomplishments. Accepting her plaque is Kali Fox, a long time staff member. Kali is often present at Michigan Greenhouse Growers membership meetings.

Annual Meeting Presentations



Tanner Olvitt, Trust Shield Insurance Group



Kali Fox of Senator Debbie Stabenow's office presenting on the farm bill.



Jon Roberts with Sunny Crest Youth Ranch



Representative Roger Victory updating attendees on session activities, including the sales/use tax clarification, water withdrawal legislation and DEQ oversight legislation.



Ryan DeLuca from US Department of Labor



State Representative Tommy Brann delivering a legislative update.



Attendees went on a tour of Action Mold & Machining in Grand Rapids. Action Mold & Machining is a Michigan business that makes containers for the flower industry. Thank you to Action Mold & Machining for hosting the Michigan Greenhouse Growers Annual Membership Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

Board Meeting – September 20
in Lansing

2019 Membership Renewals

Look for yours in the mail in the
next 30 days.

U.S. Department of Labor

Additional Fact Sheets of Interest:

Fact Sheet 35: Joint employment under the MSPA <https://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs35.pdf>

Fact Sheet 40: Child labor for agricultural occupations <https://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs40.pdf>

Fact Sheet 28N: Joint employment under the FMLA <https://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs28n.pdf>

H-2A; Temporary Agricultural Employment of Foreign Workers resources: https://www.dol.gov/whd/ag/ag_h-2a.htm



Michigan AgrAbility provides direct services to farmers with injuries, illnesses or aging conditions so they can continue the occupation and lifestyle they love.

Michigan Rehabilitation Service (MRS) is a long-time partner with Michigan AgrAbility. MRS has funds available to invest in assistive technology just for Michigan farmers.

Funds earmarked for farmers expire soon. Call 1-800-956-4106 or visit www.michiganagrability.org. Michigan AgrAbility provides direct services to farmers with injuries, illnesses or aging conditions so they can continue the occupation and lifestyle they love.

Michigan Rehabilitation Service (MRS) is a long-time partner with Michigan AgrAbility. MRS has funds available to invest in assistive technology just for Michigan farmers.

Funds earmarked for farmers expire soon. Call 1-800-956-4106 or visit www.michiganagrability.org.

Copyright © 2018 Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council, All rights reserved.

PO Box 278 Bath, MI 48808-0278