



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY McDOWELL
DIRECTOR

November 7, 2022

Sent via email to: JCAR@legislature.mi.gov

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Boji Tower, 3rd Floor
124 W. Allegan St.
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Re: Session Day waiver request

Dear Chair Bumstead and committee members:

As the regulatory affairs officer for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, I respectfully request that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules waive the remaining session days under the authority provided in the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, MCL 24.245a(1)(d), for the review of the following amended rules, which were submitted to the Committee on September 28, 2022:

MDARD Regulation 623, Field Seed Certification: R 285.623.205, R 285.623.214, and R 285.623.215 (MOAHR # 2022-10 AC)

Regulation 623 was opened up at the request of Michigan's seed industry with a goal to align Michigan's standards with national standards. MDARD received only one comment during the public comment period, supporting the proposed changes. Waving the remaining session days will allow the changes to go into effect well in advance of spring planting for seed production, providing certainty to the industry.

R 285.623.205 sets field and seed standards for small grains and buckwheat, including tolerances for winter crop seeds in summer crop seed plots and the reverse. The amendments align with current national best practices for addressing the culling of unwanted seed once it is planted.

R 285.623.214 provides details on the certification of inbred lines of foundation corn, including the minimum distance for isolation from other corn seed plots. The proposed changes align the minimum distance with the international standard established by the Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies.

R 285.623.215 provides details on the certification of single cross hybrids of foundation corn. The proposed changes align the minimum distance with the international standard established by the Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development asks that the committee waive the balance of the session days in the review period.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Bradley N. Deacon

Bradley N. Deacon
Director, Office of Legal Affairs and Emergency Management Coordinator
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
deaconb9@michigan.gov
517-284-5729