



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

DATE: March 18, 2022

TO: Senate Appropriations Committee Members
House Appropriations Committee Members
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Members
House Appropriations Subcommittee Members
Senate Fiscal Agency
House Fiscal Agency
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

FROM: Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget

SUBJECT: Section 220 Policy Changes for Implementation of Public Acts

In accordance with Section 220 of 2021 PA 87, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) is reporting on specific policy changes made to implement a public act affecting the department in the prior calendar year.

Public Act 4 of 2021 – Amendments to the Industrial Hemp law facilitated the department's ability to get the industrial hemp program approved by the United States Department of Agriculture by aligning the state statutory provisions with the federal rules in this area of law.

Public Act 54 of 2021 – Reauthorization of the funding mechanism for the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program did not require any policy changes.

Public Act 123 of 2021 – Amendments to the Open Meetings Act did not require any policy changes within the department as it provided for virtual meetings only for the independent legislatively established agricultural check off programs and not for any boards or commissions within the department itself.

If any additional information is needed, please contact me at 517-599-3605 or RenteriaS@michigan.gov.