



November 15th, 2020

The Honorable Senator Dan McConchie 325 N. Rand Road, Suite B Lake Zurich, Illinois 60047

Dear Senator McConchie:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD), it is with great pleasure that I write to congratulate you upon the news of your election as Leader-Elect by the Illinois Senate Republican Caucus.

Your past support for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) of Illinois has been greatly appreciated. Now more than ever, the work of SWCDs is needed.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts work to protect Illinois' greatest assets – the rich, fertile soils and water resources of the state through strategic conservation efforts. SWCDs, working in conjunction with agricultural as well as environmental stakeholders, have for decades over played a central role in efforts to protect and sustain the viability of Illinois' natural resources for future generations.

SWCDs are local, trusted resources that provide technical expertise to prevent flooding, erosion, sedimentation, and protect water quality and habitat. Most importantly, SWCDs are the delivery infrastructure for federal farm bill programs, as well as numerous state conservation programs for Illinois farmers, landowners, homeowners, and local governments. Additionally, SWCDs are the boots on the ground working to support the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, an effort that aims to improve the water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams.

The AISWCD looks forward to working with you in the future to develop solutions to the many existing and emerging challenges in the realm of agriculture and conservation.

Once again, congratulations and best wishes for much success.

Sincerely,

Grant Hammer Executive Director