

September 15, 2025

Honorable Nancy VanderMeer  
Chair  
Transportation Committee  
Wisconsin Assembly  
417 North  
Madison, WI 53708

RE: AB 222 – Relating to: a sustainable aviation fuel production tax credit.

Chair VanderMeer,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for AB 222. Growth Energy is the world's largest association of biofuel producers, representing 97 U.S. plants that produce more than 9.5 billion gallons of renewable fuel annually; 133 businesses associated with the production process; and tens of thousands of biofuel supporters nationwide. Together, we are working to bring consumers better and more affordable choices at the fuel pump, improve air quality, and protect the environment for future generations. We remain committed to helping diversify our country's energy portfolio, grow more energy jobs, decarbonize our nation's energy mix, sustain family farms, and drive down the costs of transportation fuels for consumers.

Growth Energy strongly advocates for policies supporting sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) development, which presents an historic opportunity to Wisconsin's corn farmers and bioethanol producers, including the five Wisconsin biorefineries that are members of Growth Energy, which collectively have a production capacity of 341 million gallons of bioethanol.

In 2021, the United States produced approximately 5 million gallons of SAF but incentives like Sustainable Aviation Fuel Tax Credit Act can help the ethanol industry occupy up to half of the domestic aviation marketplace. Growth Energy members have committed over 1.1 billion gallons of ethanol capacity to SAF, more than 650 million gallons of SAF. To achieve these goals, getting the policies that will spur this investment right is essential.

Growth Energy supports AB 222, which creates a \$1.50 per gallon tax credit for the production of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in Wisconsin. Legislation like AB 222 allows Wisconsin to become a leader in SAF production and sales. Additionally, we applaud the bill's requirement that domestic crops be used as a feedstock in order to be eligible for the credit.

AB 222 represents an opportunity for Wisconsin farmers and biofuel producers to benefit from this still-nascent market poised to skyrocket in the coming decades. A study conducted by Decision Innovation Solutions concluded that to achieve 100% SAF usage by 2050, 63 new bioethanol plants of 200 million gallons production capacity each will need to be constructed nationwide. That same study suggested Wisconsin may require an additional 200 million gallons of ethanol production capacity and a new alcohol-to-jet (the process in which bioethanol is converted to sustainable aviation fuel) SAF production facilities based on the state's corn supply.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://iowarfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/240112-Iowa-Sustainable-Aviation-Fuel-for-the-Future.pdf>

Today, biofuels support more than half a million jobs across the rural bioeconomy. If bioethanol producers take full advantage of SAF opportunities, that number has the potential to double. AB 222 incentivizes Wisconsin to embrace SAF production and capitalize on the economic and employment benefits of the growing SAF industry.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for AB 222, thank Representative Steffen and Senator Quinn for introducing the legislation, and respectfully request the committee's support for the bill. Additionally, we are available to assist the committee with any technical questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Bliley". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "B" and "L".

Chris Bliley  
Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs  
Growth Energy