



To the Members of the Subcommittee, Iowa State Capitol

Re: Support for Retention of the 260F Job Training Program – HSB 755 (IEDA Omnibus Bill)

Dear Members of the Subcommittee,

On behalf of Hoover's Hatchery, we respectfully share our thoughts on HSB755, the IEDA Omnibus Bill, and urge you to retain the 260 Job Training Program. For the past several years, the 260F program has played a direct and measurable role in strengthening our workforce, improving operational performance, and supporting long-term business stability in rural Iowa.

The funding we have received through the 260F program has allowed us to invest in targeted training that addresses real workplace needs. As a production-focused agricultural business operating in a highly regulated and labor-intensive environment, workforce capability directly impacts quality, safety, compliance, and customer satisfaction.

Through 260F-supported training, we have:

- Improved internal communication across departments, resulting in better coordination between production, customer experience, and administrative teams.
- Equipped supervisors and team leads with conflict resolution skills, reducing workplace disruptions and increasing team cohesion.
- Strengthened customer service competencies, leading to improved customer satisfaction and stronger long-term customer relationships.
- Enhanced workplace safety and compliance through supervisor drug and alcohol training, reducing risk and reinforcing accountability.

These trainings are not theoretical enhancements, they directly affect our day-to-day operations. Better communication improves production accuracy. Stronger leadership reduces turnover and performance issues. Improved customer service protects our brand reputation. Compliance training mitigates legal and operational risk.

As a rural Iowa employer, access to structured, affordable workforce development is essential. The 260F program allows us to proactively train and upskill our employees rather than reactively address problems after they occur. It supports retention by demonstrating our investment in employee growth and professional development. In a competitive labor market, that matters.

While our partnership with NIACC is significant and has facilitated delivery of this training, the true value lies in the 260F program itself which enables Iowa businesses like ours to remain competitive, compliant, and growth-oriented. Eliminating or weakening this program would significantly reduce access to high-quality training opportunities that many small and mid-sized employers would otherwise be unable to provide at scale.

The 260F Job Training Program is not simply a funding mechanism — it is a workforce stability tool. It strengthens businesses, supports employees, and contributes to economic sustainability across Iowa communities.

We respectfully ask that you preserve and protect the 260F Job Training Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Suzzee Meusel".

Suzzee Meusel
Vice President, Human Resources
Hoover's Hatchery Co., LLC