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Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of LD 195, An Act to Create the Small Business Capital Savings Account Program.

For farmers, fishermen, and forest producers this will be an important financial tool to help our small family businesses deal with the fluctuations in markets, weather patterns and other factors that affect our businesses which are beyond our control.

I own and manage Treeline, Inc. which I started in 1981. Treeline is a diversified forest-based company that supports well over 100 families both directly and indirectly. Over the past 44 years there have been many times when having a revenue tax free capital savings account would have been very helpful by allowing us to store capital when we could and use it when we needed it.

It is not uncommon for us to hear a small business owner say at the end of a good year, "my accountant told me I needed to buy something this year, so I bought a new truck", only to hear that same owner say a year or two later, "things have changed and I wish I did not have those payments on that new truck!"

I appreciate your serious consideration to pass LD 195. This will be a very helpful and important tool that will result in small family businesses being able to sustain themselves through various up and down business cycles.

Respectfully,

Brian Souers