



WISCONSIN
CHEESE MAKERS
ASSOCIATION

EST. 1891

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

March 9, 2023

Dear Wisconsin State Senators,

We write on behalf of the members of the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association to ask for your action to confirm Secretary-designee Adam Payne as leader of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

WCMA members appreciate Secretary-designee Payne's depth of knowledge of the dairy industry, given his past work as County Executive for Sheboygan County, which is home to 17 dairy processing plants and many dairy farms.

Secretary-designee Payne clearly understands that dairy processors share a passion and appreciation for Wisconsin's natural resources, and he has already established an open line of communication between the agency and industry representatives. We feel confident that we will be able to work productively with him to maintain and grow sustainable dairy operations in the state, supporting Wisconsin dairy processors' essential mission to feed the world nutritious, delicious dairy products.

We urge the Senate's swift confirmation of Secretary-designee Payne. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Umhoefer".

John Umhoefer
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebekah Sweeney".

Rebekah Sweeney
Senior Director, Programs & Policy

Note: For more than 130 years, the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association has served as the voice of cheese and dairy manufacturers, processors, and marketers. Today, WCMA represents 115 dairy processing companies and cooperatives operating across the United States and around the world, backed by 550 companies that supply equipment and services to the industry.