



Bennett Smith

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS SPECIALIST

St. Paul

612.492.7823

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Services

Government Relations

Bennett supports and advances his clients' goals by using sophisticated knowledge of Minnesota politics and government gained through his experience as legislative staff at the state and federal level.

Bennett's practice is focused on government relations consulting, which includes state and local lobbying. He helps clients achieve short- and long-term goals ranging from legislative initiatives to campaigns for public service offices.

Bennett has deep experience with Minnesota agriculture policy and practices and is still involved with his family's farm operation. He has been active in Minnesota Farmers Union, pursuing the goals of sustainability, good environmental stewardship and economic justice for farming communities. He also brings experience working in the policy areas of broadband internet infrastructure and higher education.

Drawing on the skills acquired in political communications and research, Bennett combines technical legislative expertise with the nuanced approach to public affairs. He understands how to navigate interpersonal dynamics among a diverse group of stakeholders, building coalitions by bringing often disparate views and interests into alignment to implement effective policy solutions.

Experience

- Assisted in establishing a groundbreaking tax credit to incentivize the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel at MSP International Airport, reducing the climate impacts of air travel emissions.
- Assisted with passing clarifying statutory definitions to expedite the permitting of the largest carbon sequestration infrastructure project in U.S. history.
- Provided feedback and advice to legislators that resulted in the protection and continuation of the AGRI Bioincentive Program at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Credentials

Education

- University of Minnesota - Morris, B.A., Political Science, 2010

Civic & Professional

- Stevens-Traverse Minnesota Farmers Union Chapter, President
- Minnesota Farmers Union, Member
- Blandin Foundation Community Leadership Program, Member

News

Firm News | 02.16.2023

Government Relations Specialist Bennett Smith Joins Fredrikson