

MONTMORENCY

U.S. TART CHERRIES™

February 6, 2019

Senator Peter Lucido, Chair
Senate Advice and Consent Committee
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909

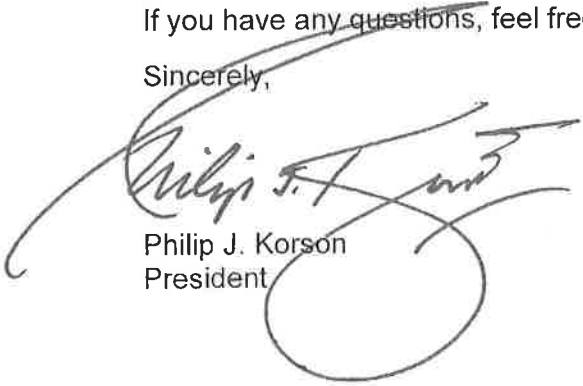
Dear Honorable Lucido,

I'm writing this letter today to support the confirmation of Gary McDowell as Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Gary is uniquely qualified for this job having served in the Michigan House of Representatives as well as serving on his local county commission. He has been a servant of the people and worked to solve problems at the state and local level.

Mr. McDowell comes to this job having been a farmer his entire life. He has worked with his brothers and partners in a very successful farming business located in Rudyard, Michigan. His business background and farming experience gives him the understanding he needs to relate to the challenges Michigan agriculture faces. It is not easy today to cope with all the challenges it takes to grow and sell a crop. Mr. McDowell is a very good listener with a good understanding of the issues. He will do a great job as the Director and I look forward to working with him.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Philip J. Korson
President

The Cherry Marketing Institute

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