



North Dakota Grain Growers Association Testimony in Support of SB 2230 House Appropriations Committee March 22, 2021

Chairman Delzer, members of the House Appropriations Committee, for the record my name is Dan Wogsland, Executive Director of the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA). NDGGA, through our contracts with the North Dakota Wheat Commission and the North Dakota Barley Council, engage in domestic policy issues on the state and federal level on behalf of North Dakota wheat and barley farmers. I am providing testimony for you today on behalf of NDGGA in support of SB 2230.

Chairman Delzer, members of the House Appropriations Committee, all of you are very well aware of the success the Strategic Investment and Improvement Fund and its importance in supporting credit for value added agriculture and energy ventures. Value-added agriculture is critical to the continued success for North Dakota agriculture.

SB 2230, which expands this loan guarantee fund, would give the fund the ability to better support large-scale value-added agricultural projects. The positive aspect of this is that the SIF monies used to “back” the loan guarantees would not be spent but instead would be held in a reserve fund; as loans are repaid this reserve fund would be reduced.

Chairman Delzer, members of the House Appropriations Committee, as stated before, value-added agriculture is a key component to North Dakota agriculture’s continued success. SB 2230 will be a critical element in this effort. Therefore the North Dakota Grain Growers Association would respectfully request the House Appropriations Committee give SB 2230 a Do Pass recommendation and would urge the full House concur.

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