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**Testimony of Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner
Senate Bill 2342
Senate Agriculture Committee
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Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and I am here with opposition testimony on Senate Bill 2342.

I am a bit confused by the bill as it appears to duplicate programs that are available through NRCS and soil conservation districts. Other organizations can and have applied for monies from the Outdoor Heritage Fund to provide resources for cell grazing, range management, and habitat restoration. The bill requires the agriculture commissioner to establish a grant program and establish a healthy soil assessment and education program. This seems like it is making us into a clearing house for soil health. I am not opposed to that concept if there are resources attached to it. However, the new special fund that would be established by SB 2342 is authority only with no resources tied to it. This would make the requirements in the bill unfunded mandates.

Chairman Luick, members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, thank you and I will stand for any questions.