



Contact:
Matt Perdue, Lobbyist
mperdue@ndfu.org | 701.641.3303

**Testimony of
Matt Perdue
North Dakota Farmers Union
Before the
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
January 14, 2021**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2144. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am here on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's (NDFU) members.

NDFU supports SB 2144, because it strengthens property owners' rights. We also support establishing an electronic posting system, which provides a convenient and accessible platform for those who own the land and those wishing to access it.

Family farmers and ranchers care deeply for the land and our state's natural resources. For generations, their stewardship has improved the productivity of farmland and rangeland across North Dakota. Those same efforts contribute to strong wildlife habitat and protect our state's natural beauty, attracting hunters and recreationalists to the more than 93 percent of North Dakota's land held in private ownership.

NDFU believes farmers' and ranchers' stewardship should be rewarded with basic protections and property rights. SB 2144 is a step in the right direction. It strengthens protections on pastures and other fenced land.

Electronic posting is also a positive step forward. The online database gives landowners a more convenient avenue for posting their land. It also gives hunters the opportunity to plan ahead, identify land that is posted and not posted, and make arrangements with landowners.

Ultimately, NDFU's Policy & Action states "all private land should be considered 'POSTED.'" This position is not driven by a desire to close all private land to hunters. It would simply ensure that landowners know who is on their land and when. While SB 2144 still leaves the burden on landowners to post their land, we appreciate the work of all sides to arrive at a compromise.

We urge a do pass on SB 2144.

Thank you for your time. I will stand for questions.

