Zachary Cassidy

Dakota Resource Council Lobbyist

Greetings Mr. Chairman and committee members,

I am Zachary Cassidy of Dakota Resource Council here to express our opposition to 149, which would ban flying Drones over CAFOs in North Dakota. This bill is chasing after boogiemen that don't exist and could be viewed as an attack on the public's right to transparency. Why do we have special protections for just one type of facility? CAFOs do pose a threat to local water systems and general public health. As such it seems fair that the public should be able to know if they are behaving correctly. There is nothing, I can see, about the nature of CAFOs that would justify special protections. Limiting drones in places like military bases, some government facilities, and energy infrastructure is reasonable, but this bill represents a level of favoritism towards a facility that does not need it.

For these reasons, DRC stands opposed to this bill.