March 9, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly, House Appropriations Government Operations Division

I am writing this letter asking for your continued support of the NDSU Central Grasslands Research Extension Center (CGREC) located near Streeter ND.

This letter is written on behalf of the advisory board to the CGREC.

The research being conducted on range, forages, and animal science plays a critical role in helping to keep our agricultural-based economy healthy. The CGREC is made-up of 5,335 acres of mixed-grass prairie in Stutman and Kidder Counties. This location primarily serves a 16 county area in the Missouri Coteau but its outreach has been much greater than that.

The CGREC is uniquely positioned to conduct research trials on a field scale and unbiased third-party basis. This research continues to provide information and ideas that farmers and ranchers can apply to their own operations. The network of experiment stations that CGREC is part of is vital to the continued effort to enhance economic return of grazing lands and forages while promoting ecosystem services and land conservation. This is their mission! Farmers and ranchers need help researching new production methods that they can take and use as they may not be willing to try themselves until they are more proven.

On behalf of the advisory board to the NDSU CGREC, we support Senate Bill SB2020.

Thank you for time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christof Just

Chair of the CGREC Advisory Board

Berlin, ND