

Testimony of Susan Leake

HB1318

ND Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee

March 14, 2025

Chairman and committee members:

My name is Susan Leake. I live in central Grand Forks County, where my family farms.

I am in opposition of HB1318 because it implies that the EPA is responsible for product safety and testing. Product safety and product testing are NOT the EPA's job. Product safety and testing are the responsibility of the herbicide/pesticide manufacturer and developer. The EPA has never been in charge of product safety and testing, and to imply that they are is incorrect. If an herbicide/pesticide manufacturer or developer produces and markets a product which is not safe, it is their problem, not the EPA's, and states, localities and individuals have the right to sue.

If a product is not safe, the developer should reformulate it to be safe; selling an unsafe product and telling people that they do not have the right to sue is not something that should happen in North Dakota. North Dakota is not a third-world country.

Thank you for understanding that the EPA is not responsible for product safety and testing, and that the right to sue a herbicide/pesticide manufacturer or developer is a right. Your vote against HB1318 shows you are not afraid to stand up for what is right.

Sincerely,

Susan Leake