



**North Dakota Grain Growers Association  
Testimony in Support of HB 1332  
Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee  
March 20, 2025**

Chairman Luick, Members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee, for the record my name is Dan Wogsland representing the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA). NDGGA appears before you today in support of HB 1332. HB 1332 will drive economic growth, foster agricultural innovation, and enhance the profitability of North Dakota's farmers and ranchers.

As North Dakota continues to strengthen its position as a leader in agriculture, this bill is a crucial step toward ensuring that we remain competitive in an evolving industry. The Agriculture Diversification and Development Fund plays a pivotal role in supporting value-added agriculture, which extends the economic benefits of agricultural production beyond raw commodity sales.

**Key Benefits of HB 1332:**

**1. Encourages Value-Added Agriculture**

- By providing grants and incentives, this bill supports businesses that process and manufacture agricultural products, allowing North Dakota producers to capture more value from their crops and livestock.
- The inclusion of food production, feed processing, commodity processing, and animal agriculture ensures a broad spectrum of economic development.

**2. Boosts Economic Growth and Job Creation**

- The requirement that eligible projects have a minimum capital investment of \$350 million demonstrates a commitment to attracting large-scale investments in North Dakota.
- With an estimated economic contribution of at least \$20 million per project, this bill will significantly enhance rural economies, creating jobs and expanding opportunities for local communities.

### **3. Infrastructure Investment for Agriculture Expansion**

- HB 1332 provides critical funding for infrastructure improvements, such as natural gas and electricity supply, roads, and water systems, that are essential for large-scale agricultural processing facilities.
- These improvements will not only support value-added agriculture but also benefit surrounding businesses and communities.

### **4. Keeps North Dakota Competitive**

- The bill ensures that our state remains a top destination for agricultural investment by requiring that projects have a competing offer from another Midwestern state—a necessary safeguard to attract major industry players.
- It positions North Dakota to take advantage of growing domestic demand for diversified agricultural products.

### **5. Financial Prudence and Long-Term Vision**

- The Bank of North Dakota's oversight of loans and grants ensures responsible financial management.
- The \$30 million grant limit balances necessary investment with fiscal responsibility, ensuring that funds are allocated efficiently.

### **Conclusion**

HB 1332 represents an investment in North Dakota's future—empowering farmers, strengthening rural communities, and ensuring that our agricultural industry remains innovative and competitive. Chairman Luick, Members of the Committee, NDGGA would respectfully request a Do Pass recommendation for HB 1332 to ensure that North Dakota continues to lead in value-added agriculture and economic development.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to address any questions.