

Chairman Luick and Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I support SB 2148 and the proposal to transfer oversight of unclaimed livestock to the Unclaimed Properties Division of the Department of School Trust Lands.

A state agency can dedicate more time, resources, and transparency to locating the rightful owners of confiscated animals, ensuring accountability throughout the process. This shift would prioritize producers' concerns and establish a more accessible and equitable system for resolving cases of missing livestock.

Additionally, unclaimed funds generated from these situations can be better utilized to benefit the people of North Dakota as a whole, rather than remaining under the purview of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association. This approach aligns with the interests of both producers and the broader community.

Kerry Dockter

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