

COMMISSIONER  
DOUG GOEHRING



ndda@nd.gov  
www.ndda.nd.gov

**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
STATE CAPITOL  
600 E. BOULEVARD AVE. – DEPT. 602  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0020

**Testimony of Doug Goehring**  
**Agriculture Commissioner**  
**Senate Energy and Natural Resources**  
**Peace Garden**  
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Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. I am here today in support of HB 1400, which provides for the ability to acquire interest on money in the environmental impact mitigation fund and the ability to enter into easements or leaseholds to carry out the intent and purpose of the mitigation program under 4.1-01-21.1.

HB 1400 allows me, in my position, to enter into agreements with landowners that are necessary to fulfill statutory requirements enacted last session related to environmental mitigation. The bill also provides the ability to obtain interest on the dollars deposited in the environmental impact mitigation fund.

Chairman Patten and committee members, thank you for your time. I urge a do pass on HB 1400. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.