



North Dakota Farm Credit Council

AgCountry Farm Credit Services Farm Credit Services of Mandan Farm Credit Services of North Dakota

**Testimony of Dana Bohn
North Dakota Farm Credit Council Executive Director
HB 1026
January 7, 2021**

Chairman Johnson and members of the House Agriculture Committee, my name is Dana Bohn and on behalf of the North Dakota Farm Credit Council (NDFCC), I would like to express our support of HB 1026, which provides numerous enhancements and modernizes grain licensing and regulations. We would also like to thank all those involved in the work to address this important issue.

NDFCC is comprised of three farmer/rancher-owned independent Farm Credit associations that provide credit and financial services to farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses of all sizes and income ranges in every county in North Dakota. North Dakota Farm Credit associations provide about \$14.6 billion in credit in addition to providing financial services to approximately 26,000 customers.

Farm Credit Services provides financing to farmers, elevators and grain warehouses. The North Dakota Farm Credit Council is supportive of providing protection to its owners, the farmers, when dealing with elevators and grain warehouses. Although we recognize farmers are responsible for doing their own due diligence regarding entities with whom they are doing business, we appreciate this bill attempts to provide broader financial protection to producer claimants.

We would like to especially thank the Ag Commissioner and his staff for meeting with us during the interim to discuss our concerns with the first draft of this legislation and making changes to address our concerns that are now included in HB 1026. We were very pleased with the progress and their willingness to listen to stakeholders. We are also very appreciative of all the work the interim committee did to develop this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to show NDFCC's support for HB 1026 and express our appreciation for all those involved in the work to address this important issue.

Independently owned and operated associations serving North Dakota.

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