Mr. Chairman and members of the House Agriculture Committee, my name is Jeremy Maher. I ranch in southwestern Sioux County in District 31. My wife and I own a registered herd of cows. I am a paying member of North Dakota Farmers Union.

I wish you to vote in favor of HB 1487 for the following reasons.

- 1. I believe my fellow beef producers and I should have the choice to pay the extra check-off dollar up front.
- 2. I don't believe that check-off represents me or my fellow beef producers. I feel my check-off dollar goes to fight against issues I believe in.
- 3. This is a common sense Bill. It will make the process of collecting the check-off much easier for the ND Beef Commission by eliminating the need for the commission to send out the application and then later having to issue a check. The end result is paying postage twice.

Thank you for reading my testimony. If you would have any questions I would be happy to talk. 701-522-3696

Respectfully, Jeremy Maher