



**Testimony of Rob Hanson
On behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association
January 12, 2021
In Support of House Bill 1087**

Chairman Lefor and members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee,

My name is Rob Hanson. I am the President of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association and a farmer and property owner from Wimbledon, ND.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association appreciates the opportunity to voice our members' support of HB 1087, making the invisible reinsurance pool for the individual health insurance market a permanent fixture in the state. This bill establishes a reinsurance mechanism that essentially functions as "insurance for insurance companies." The pool provides reinsurance for high level health insurance claims on individual health policies. We believe the reinsurance program helped reduce premiums by approximately 20% compared to the baseline premium (without the waiver). In this program, enrollees can remain in the individual market with their current plan and carrier.

Healthcare costs continue to escalate, with double-digit premium increases for many North Dakotans. We believe These individual policy holders have seen some stabilization of premium increases because of this program you approved in 2019, significantly benefitting our state's farmers and small businesses that have individual and family insurance policies, and we thank you for your foresight.

The policies proposed in HB 1087 greatly aid the citizens of North Dakota and help to keep the cost of living in our state manageable, another incentive for our young people to stay in the state. We ask you to support HB 1087. Thanks for your time today and I welcome your questions.