



**North Dakota Grain Growers Association
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee
Testimony in Support of SB 2037
January 14, 2021**

Chairman Kreun, members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for the record my name is John Weinand; I am a farmer and a landowner from Hazen, North Dakota. I am Past President of the North Dakota Grain Growers Association and I was a citizen member of the Interim Natural Resources Committee. Today I am here to represent myself and the North Dakota Grain Growers Association in support of SB 2037.

I was proud to be asked to participate in the Interim Natural Resources Committee during the 2019-2020 Interim. Landowner rights is a very important issue to me and to my family. I am an avid hunter as well, tackling mountain lions among other species in our state. I was pleased with the legislation, for the most part, that our Committee has forwarded for the 2021 Legislature's consideration. Committee members did not always agree but it is the debate that ultimately provides for legislation for your consideration.

NDGGA and I continue our support for the posting of all land in the state of North Dakota. We continue to feel that is the most reasonable and responsible approach that will ultimately benefit both landowners and sportsmen in the state. That said, there are many facets to SB 2037 which we support including the following:

- Using fences as a land boundary
- Allowing landowners, the flexibility to sign onto physically posted property
- The flexibility of allowing peace officers the ability to cite trespassers
- Allowing landowners, the ability to access an online database to express their wishes for their property.

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Phone: 701-282-9361 | Fax: 701-404-5187 | 1002 Main Ave W. #3 West Fargo, N.D. 58078

SB 2037 is a commonsense approach to the issue of property rights in the state of North Dakota. It sets definitive parameters for landowners, sportsmen and law enforcement regarding land access in North Dakota. Therefore I and the North Dakota Grain Growers Association ask the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee for a do pass recommendation for SB 2037 and would urge the Senate to concur.