



NORTH DAKOTA

Family Alliance LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1356

Mark Jorritsma, Executive Director
North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action
February 3, 2023

Dear Chairman Thomas and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action would like to testify in support of House Bill 1356 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

Our organization wholeheartedly supports the protection and rights of North Dakotans to avoid possible threats to our freedoms and sovereignty. One recent potential threat to this has been associated with the acquisition of property by a foreign entity near a key military installation in our state. Frankly, we are very concerned that this was allowed to happen, and if there is a way to “undo” it and/or prevent future similar problems, we stand behind it.

This bill would create a state agricultural foreign investment review board composed of a variety of individuals, each representing a different viewpoint and areas of government interest. We find this to be a balanced approach to addressing the problem. Further, it lays out a specific procedure whereby an individual can submit a request to the review board for an opinion on a proposed land acquisition – a feature clarifying the implementation of the bill. We would like to suggest possibly adding a timeframe into the language within which the review board must render their opinion, and perhaps specifying an appeal process as well.

House Bill 1356 seeks to protect North Dakotans and their interests from those who might want to harm us. While the bill might need some additional fine tuning, we believe it is a solid start in accomplishing these goals. For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action supports House Bill 1356 and respectfully requests that you render a “DO PASS” on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mark Jorritsma
Executive Director