

My name is Frank Tomac, cattle rancher from Sioux County.

I am in favor of HB 1436.

This bill solves a problem that's been gnawing at cattle producers statewide for many years.

It gives the producers of the state a democratic way to seat who THEY want to best serve them on the ND Beef Commission.

It doesn't take away any specific group that's represented now, such as the dairy producers, the feeder council or the livestock marketers. All of those can still be elected.

HB 1436 DOES create a better avenue for cattle producers statewide to voice their opinion, concerns and even ideas through their local representatives, who more than likely every producer will know or get to know through this election process.

It will better align all commodity groups in the state of ND by making all commodities elected.

One big concern I have is on Page 1, Section 1, Definition #4; where it states in part "an individual who has been a beef producer"

To me this means anyone who has ever been a producer and paid the beef checkoff, both past and present! A Cattle Industry Representative needs to be a CURRENT producer, whether it be beef, dairy or feeder. I don't want individuals who had cows 20 years ago to be able to vote. We need current cattle producers to represent the cattle producers on the ND Beef Commission.

Thank You

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