

COMMISSIONER  
DOUG GOEHRING



ndda@nd.gov  
www.nd.gov/ndda

**NORTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

STATE CAPITOL  
600 E. BOULEVARD AVE. – DEPT. 602  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0020

**Testimony of Doug Goehring  
Agriculture Commissioner  
House Appropriations Committee  
Brynild Haugland Room  
January 25, 2023**

---

---

Chairman Vigesaa, and members of the House Appropriations Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and I'm here today in support of House Bill 1369 regarding the creation of a fertilizer development fund to support fertilizer production in North Dakota.

Fertilizer is an essential component to food security. As a leading producer in dozens of different commodities, North Dakota utilizes a large amount of fertilizer every year. A reliable and consistent supply of fertilizer is critical to maintaining crop yields which drive our state's agriculture sector. North Dakota, on average, consumes approximately 2.5 million tons of fertilizer every year, with roughly 1.5 million tons being nitrogen. However, only about 20% of that product is currently produced here. The resources needed to manufacture fertilizer are abundant, reliable, and cheap in North Dakota. Between 2020 and 2021 the price of nitrogen fertilizer increased 400%. Additionally, estimated anhydrous production will need to increase by 40% by 2050 to feed the world's demand. Agriculture and the public gain the biggest benefits from projects that this legislation could support.

Chairman Vigesaa, and committee members, thank you for your time and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.