



Contact:  
**Matt Perdue, Lobbyist**  
[mperdue@ndfu.org](mailto:mperdue@ndfu.org) | 701.641.3303

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**Testimony of  
Matt Perdue  
North Dakota Farmers Union  
Before the  
House Finance and Taxation Committee  
March 14, 2023**

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Chairman Headland and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2329. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's members.

NDFU supports SB 2329, which would invest 25% of motor vehicle excise tax revenues in county and township roads and bridges. NDFU's member-driven Policy and Action supports allocating motor vehicle excise tax collections to infrastructure needs. We believe SB 2329 is an important step toward improving our state's transportation network.

According to the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI), our rural roads and bridges require \$10.5 billion of investment over the next 20 years. It is clear that counties and townships need sustainable, adequate funding sources to address their growing infrastructure needs. SB 2329 takes an important step toward filling that gap. The bill would provide roughly \$84.6 million in the next biennium to support county and township infrastructure.

We appreciate the 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly's work to address rural infrastructure needs during the 2021 regular session and special session. Those efforts provided critical infusions of funding to support rural roads and bridges. We believe SB 2329 builds on that progress and provides a reliable mechanism to fund rural roads into the future.

We respectfully request a "Do Pass" recommendation on SB 2329. I will stand for any questions.