



October 23, 2023

Chairman Thomas and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to address this important issue.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association, the grassroots member association representing the state's 13,000 corn growers at the state and federal levels of government, supports House Bill 1546, legislation to establish and fund the fertilizer development incentive program.

Corn growers have been disproportionately negatively impacted by fertilizer shortages and price spikes. As the world population is expected to exceed nine billion by 2050, fertilizer will be needed more than ever to boost crop production to feed its inhabitants.

North Dakota is at the end of the fertilizer supply chain, which lends itself to greater price volatility, frequent supply shortages, and higher prices for producers. Ammonia is commonly half the price in the U.S. Gulf compared to our part of the country. Incentives to increase in-state fertilizer production will help ensure a more stable and more affordable fertilizer supply.

While we do not endorse any particular company that may consider producing fertilizer in North Dakota, we applaud the state's interest in helping to incent development of a resource we consider critical to agriculture in our state.

Please support a DO PASS motion for this fertilizer development incentive program. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brenda Elmer
Executive Director