

Testimony of Dana Bohn North Dakota Farm Credit Council Executive Director HB 1020 March 2, 2023

Chairman Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Dana Bohn and on behalf of the North Dakota Farm Credit Council (NDFCC), I'd like to express our support for HB 1020.

NDFCC is comprised of two farmer/rancher-owned independent Farm Credit associations that provide credit and financial services to farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses of all sizes and income ranges in every county in North Dakota. North Dakota Farm Credit cooperatives provide about \$12.7 billion in loans to farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses and provide financial services to approximately 28,000 customers.

NDFCC supports the funding of the 2023-2025 SBARE priorities for the NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station. Ag research and extension continue to be one of the top priorities for North Dakota's farmers and ranchers in making decisions that lead to the highest quality product most economically produced.

We would particularly like to stress the importance of the capital improvement request of the field lab facility. This facility would address the modernization needs of Waldron Hall, Widakas laboratory, the potato research laboratory, and the horticulture laboratory.

In closing, NDFCC encourages your support of HB 1020.

Independently owned and operated associations serving North Dakota.

AgCountry FCS 1900 44th Street South, Fargo, ND 58108 701-282-9494 • 800-450-8933 www.agcountry.com FCS of Mandan 1600 Old Red Trail, Mandan, ND 58554 701-663-6487 • 800-660-6487 www.farmcreditmandan.com