



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  
Senate Industry & Business Committee  
January 31, 2023**

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Chairman Kannianen and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2266. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's members. NDFU supports SB 2266, which would allow state-chartered credit unions to serve a larger geographic area.

SB 2266 will help keep more credit unions operating under a state charter. This is important to farmers and ranchers for two reasons. First, under the state charter, North Dakota credit unions are better able to serve the needs of family farmers and ranchers. The National Credit Union Administration generally discriminates against agricultural lending. Giving North Dakota's credit unions greater flexibility under the state charter will ensure the state's farmers and ranchers can continue to access this important lending option.

Second, SB 2266 will preserve state governance over our credit union system. Credit unions already have the option to operate under a federal charter. Overly restrictive state regulations may force state-chartered credit unions to transition to federal charter or to consolidate with larger credit unions. That would ultimately result in a loss of local and state control.

We respectfully request a "Do Pass" recommendation on SB 2266. Thank you for your consideration. I will stand for any questions.