Members of the Agriculture Committee,

As beef producers in western North Dakota and strong supporters of our Beef Checkoff, we urge you to OPPOSE HB 1207, which would amend the Beef Commission legislation.

Our concerns to name a few:
The expected costs - initially and annually. Those diverted dollars would reduce our promotion, education, and research power.

Election by mail - expensive - very unreliable.

How to ensure accuracy in information? No one consistent way to prove beef producer status. Cow counting by surveys that many producers do not complete. Relying on FSA data and producer lists when not all producers are enrolled. Requesting private sales data from auction markets is a questionable practice to enforce.

Dropping more work on our already overworked and understaffed extension offices.

Finding people to run, especially in large rural areas with lots of cattle but few people.

How can it be fair among producers when some district areas will have larger herds with fewer producers and other districts will have smaller herds with more producers?

The process, as it is, works. Those appointed are honored to have these positions, are diligent in fulfilling their duties, and are willing to hear from the producers they represent.

NO on HB 1207
Thank you kindly,
Cody and Julie Reis
Fairfield ND