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Mr. Chairman and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

I am Brent Baldwin, a farmer from Saint Thomas, North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am representing the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association in SUPPORT of House Bill 1280.

This bill makes it so that if a landowner who is receiving benefit from a water management project, and yet failed to pay the required assessment may not vote on the question of obligating the district for costs.

This bill just makes sense, it ensures that only those who have fulfilled their financial responsibilities are allowed to participate in decisions that affect the financial obligations of the district. It also discourages non-payment of assessments and aligns voting privileges with financial accountability.

We encourage this committee to provide a DO PASS recommendation on HB 1280.

Brent Baldwin – Farmer – Saint Thomas, North Dakota
President - Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association