

HB1318
House Agriculture Committee
1/23/25
Jason Hanson
President, North Dakota Agriculture Consultant's Association

Chairman Beltz and members of the House Agriculture Committee. For the record, my name is Jason Hanson and I am from Webster, ND. I currently serve as the president of the North Dakota Agriculture Consultant's Association. We are an association of crop consultants. Crop consultants are agronomists who scout crops and develop recommendations for farmers to help those farmers manage their agronomic practices. A major portion of this business is developing pesticide recommendations and guiding the farmers and applicators as they make their pesticide applications.

I stand before you today in support of HB1318 and ask for your support of this bill. This bill acknowledges that the label is the law and, between the label and MSDS sheet, all safety and health hazards are accurately described.

Further, the label is law and it explains exactly how to handle the pesticide safely to avoid any health risks. Specifically the label accurately describes the toxicity through signal words such as caution, warning, and danger. The

label also accurately explains the PPE requirements needed to handle the pesticide safely.

This proposed legislation would help protect North Dakota Agriculture from vacation of pesticide labels without just cause. For example, In 2020, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit found that glyphosate is a carcinogen. If this would have resulted in vacating the glyphosate label, North Dakota Agriculture would have been greatly impacted in an extremely negative way. However, the EPA reviewed it and in September of 2022, the EPA found that glyphosate is NOT a carcinogen and therefore the EPA withdrew it's Glyphosate Interim Decision.

It is very difficult as an agronomist to make good recommendations if we don't know what pesticides are available for us to use. Further, it's even more difficult to manage crop production when pesticide registrations are vacated during the growing season. This proposed legislation would help protect North Dakota farmers and applicators from these challenges.

Thank you for your time. I would stand for questions.