



In Opposition to HB 1509
House Agriculture
January 30, 2025

Chairman Beltz and Committee members:

For the record, my name is Lesley Icenogle. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association (NDCGA) in opposition to House Bill 1509.

NDCGA supports protecting commodity checkoff organizations and their investment in our agriculture industry. These organizations are critical to the sustainability of the industry through research to increase profitability and quality, domestic and international market development, and education for producers and consumers.

HB 1509 increases the time for the Oilseed Council to receive refund applications from ninety days to one year from the assessment. This length of time creates financial uncertainty for the Oilseed Council when budgeting their vital research, promotion, and education programs. Additionally, altering the refund time frame for one checkoff organization puts other commodity checkoffs at risk.

We urge a Do Not Pass recommendation on HB 1509 to protect commodity checkoffs. Thank you for your consideration, and I will stand for questions.