

69th Legislative Assembly (2025-2027)
SB 2009

Testimony from Emelyn Herman and Audrey Herman, Morton County 4-H Members

EMELYN

Good Afternoon,

My name is Emelyn Herman, and this is my sister, Audrey. We are 11 and 12 years old and proud members of the Morton County 4-H Program. Through 4-H, we've learned responsibility, leadership, and the value of hard work. Today, we want to talk about why State Fair Premium Checks are so important to 4-H members like us.

The premiums we earn are more than just money. They represent the time, effort, and dedication we put into our projects. Whether the project is raising livestock, growing crops, baking, sewing, or creating exhibits, it allows us to showcase our skills. Without 4H, I would have never learned how to raise calves, lambs, or even rabbits. These checks help us grow our projects, buy supplies for next year, and even save for our future. In the past four years, I have saved over \$700 for college just from my premium checks.

AUDREY, following Emelyn

The State Fair is more than just a summer event. For me, it's a tradition. It brings our community together, teaches us responsibility, and gives us a chance to show what we've learned. The premium checks motivate us to keep improving and taking pride in our work. Without them, some kids might not be able to afford to participate at the same level. It takes money to create, build, and display our work, and without this support, some kids might struggle to be involved.

I ask you, my family asks you, and my community asks you to continue funding State Fair Premium Checks. You can help ensure that every 4-H member, no matter their background, can keep learning, growing, and contributing to their community. Thank you for your time and for supporting the youth of North Dakota.

Does anyone have any questions?