

Thank you Mr. Chairman Members of the House Finance and Tax Committee

Vicky Steiner, District 37, Dickinson

This bill, 1571, repeals the bioscience sales tax exemption for raw materials, single use product contact systems and reagents used for biologic manufacturing

We could not get the required information in the interim Tax Committee that vice chair Hagert chaired last year. We had been sold this tax break on the premise that 100 companies would be drawn to this tax break but when the Tax Commissioner came to give us the data that was required by law, he refused. He said there are less than 5 companies benefiting so it appears this tax break has not created one job or drawn one company.

In one of the Appropriations budget bills, we spent \$8 million on grants to Bioscience and it may be more but that's my memory of additional money spent on this industry.

The fiscal note reveals that requiring sales and use tax would mean that this company or less than 5 companies would pay about \$4.3 million dollars to the general fund and \$416,000 for state aid fund.

Given that the promises for jobs in ND have not been met, I urge support to remove this excessive tax break.

I stand for questions.