

**To: Senate Appropriates – Government Operations**  
**Attention Chairman Wonzek**

**From: Ed Cuskelly**  
211 Haugen Drive  
Killdeer, ND 58640

[cuskellye@ndsupernet.com](mailto:cuskellye@ndsupernet.com)

**Subject: Support of Senate Bill 2020 on Behalf of the Dickinson Research Extension Center**

**Date: January 13, 2025**

Dear Chairman, Wonzek and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

I am Ed Cuskelly, the chair of the NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center Advisory Board. I am retired from the agricultural industry as a sales representative, and I am presently ranching in southwestern North Dakota.

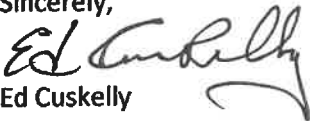
The Dickinson Research Extension Center (DREC) has been conducting impactful agricultural research and education for farmers and ranchers in southwest North Dakota. I have personally seen and experienced the vast improvements of agriculture because of the Dickinson Research Extension Center's efforts.

Field and plot research equipment is costly and requires maintenance. Sheds provide protection from the elements and prolong equipment longevity. Funding sheds as prioritized by SBARE for the Dickinson, Central Grasslands, and Carrington Research Extension Centers is a long-term investment that will prolong the life of REC equipment. I have visited the DREC ranch near Manning several times and have noticed that there is a lack of storage for tractors and other pieces of equipment.

Building those sheds for the DREC and others will save us money in the future. However, I have seen that costs have risen greatly over the past years. Increasing state support and operating budgets will ensure that agriculture remains prosperous in North Dakota.

Thank you for your time and support. The Dickinson Research Extension Center and other REC's are a tremendous asset to farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

  
Ed Cuskelly