

Chairman Luick and Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee,

My name is Jeremy Maher, and I ranch in Sioux County, ND.

I strongly oppose SB 2161 due to its proposal to raise the brand fee by 100%, an excessive and unwarranted increase. While a modest adjustment of 5-10% may be justifiable, a 100% hike raises serious concerns about the necessity and fairness of such an action. This level of increase would place an undue financial burden on ranchers, many of whom are already facing significant economic challenges. I respectfully urge you to amend this bill to propose a more reasonable and measured increase, ensuring that it reflects necessity rather than excess.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Maher