

**2021 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION**

**HCR 3026**

# 2021 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Taxation Committee  
Room JW327E, State Capitol

HCR 3026  
2/8/2021

A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President of the United States to protect agricultural producers and other large asset holders in the state by refraining from changing the federal estate and gift tax exemption and from raising income taxes.

**Chairman Headland** opened the hearing at 10:30am.

<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Present</b>
Representative Craig Headland	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Dick Anderson	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Jason Dockter	Y
Representative Sebastian Ertelt	AB
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Patrick Hatlestad	Y
Representative Zachary Ista	Y
Representative Tom Kading	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Marvin E. Nelson	Y
Representative Nathan Toman	AB
Representative Wayne A. Trottier	Y

**Discussion Topics:**

- Estate tax

**Representative Porter** introduced bill (no written testimony).

**Julie Ellingson, Stockman's Association**, testified in support (no written testimony).

**Emery Melhoff, North Dakota Farm Bureau**, testified in support (no written testimony).

**Chairman Headland** closed the hearing at 10:36am.

**Representative Fisher** made a motion for a Do Pass.

**Representative D. Anderson** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Representative Craig Headland	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Dick Anderson	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Jason Dockter	Y
Representative Sebastian Ertelt	AB
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Patrick Hatlestad	Y
Representative Zachary Ista	Y
Representative Tom Kading	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Marvin E. Nelson	Y
Representative Nathan Toman	AB
Representative Wayne A. Trottier	Y

**Motion carried 12-0-2**

**Representative Fisher is the bill carrier.**

**Chairman Headland** closed the discussion at 10:38am.

*Mary Brucker, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3026: Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Headland, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3026 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2021 SENATE FINANCE AND TAXATION**

**HCR 3026**

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Finance and Taxation Committee Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

HCR 3026  
3/8/2021

A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President of the United States to protect agricultural producers and other large asset holders in the state by refraining from changing the federal estate and gift tax exemption and from raising income taxes.

**Chair Bell** calls the meeting to order. Chair Bell, Vice Chair Kannianen, Senators Meyer, J. Roers, Patten, Piepkorn, Weber are present. [10:59]

### Discussion Topics:

- Estate gift tax
- Family farmer estate planning
- Farm assets

**Representative Porter** [10:59] orally introduces the bill in favor.

**Julie Ellingson** [11:01] North Dakota Stockman's Association in favor #7904.

**Chair Bell** adjourns the hearing. [11:03]

**Senator Weber** [11:03] moved DO PASS

**Senator J. Roers** second

Senators	Vote
Senator Jessica Bell	Y
Senator Jordan Kannianen	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Dale Patten	Y
Senator Merrill Piepkorn	Y
Senator Jim Roers	Y
Senator Mark Weber	Y

Motion carries 7-0-0

**Senator Weber** carries.

**Senator Bell** adjourns meeting [11:05]

*Joel Crane, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3026: Finance and Taxation Committee (Sen. Bell, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3026 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

**North Dakota Stockmen's Association**

**Testimony to the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee on HCR 3026**

**March 8, 2021**

Good morning, Chairwoman Bell and Senate Finance and Taxation Committee members.

My name is Julie Ellingson and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 91-year-old beef cattle trade organization comprised of more than 3,000 cattle-ranching families from across the state.

We stand in support of HCR 3026. Our organization has long-standing policy calling for the full and permanent elimination of the federal estate tax. That's because it is particularly problematic for "asset-rich, cash-poor" family businesses like North Dakota cattle ranches. The death tax's threat to agricultural operations and the rural economies that rely on them is clear. Farming and ranching is capital intensive, yet ag land, buildings and machinery are highly illiquid assets. As a result, family operations have few options to generate cash to pay the estate tax, which can be a death warrant for these small- to medium-sized family businesses, forcing families to sell off land, equipment, parts of the operation or even the ranch itself in order to pay off tax liabilities.

While it was not completely eliminated, we made significant progress when the income cap was raised through the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. We are urging Congress and the president to maintain this higher cap so that family farms, ranches and other small businesses can carry on their legacies and we don't take a step backward on the progress we have made.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning. I would stand for any questions you might have.