

Testimony **in Opposition** to HB 1487 presented to the

House Agriculture Committee on February 5, 2021

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and members of the House Agriculture Committee.

My name is Kathy Tokach, I am a rancher on a family-operated Angus ranch at St. Anthony, ND.

I stand opposed to HB 1487.

I strongly urge you to vote in Opposition to HB 1487.

Every time I sell a beef animal, I am investing \$2 per animal in the Beef Checkoff. My investment is critical to fund beef promotion, research, education, and consumer information programs.

Checkoff 'nutrition research' provides reams of information that is utilized in many areas, including the hearings for the USDA dietary guidelines. Dr. Eric Berg, a NDSU Scientist/ Researcher, has presented at these hearings. NDSU Scientists/Researchers have been able to conduct many research projects through Checkoff funds that were available to complete their research. My investment in our Beef Checkoff programs is important at the present time and in the future to promote beef as a vital protein in our American diet. Through Beef Checkoff research, we utilize the 'science' of beef nutrition to present to consumers.

The Checkoff is supported by approximately 90% of the ND Beef Producers. There is a process for a refund if a producer chooses to request a refund. This process is similar to the other commodities in North Dakota.

Thank-you and I strongly urge you to vote in Opposition to HB 1487 .

Kathy Tokach

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