

My name is JW Froelich from Selfridge, N.D. I am 24 years old and a 4th generation rancher.

I think you should vote **Yes** on **HB 1487** to allow beef producers *a choice* of whether they want to have another dollar taken from their paycheck for the beef checkoff. The ranching industry has tight margins, especially for young producers like myself who need every dollar to invest in land, machinery, fuel, and feed to manage a cow herd, earn a living, and provide for our families. We are also at the mercy of markets and political issues when we sell our livestock. As a young entrepreneur, I would like to have a voice in what kinds of unknown fees are taken from my bottom line.

At 24, I am one of the youngest producers in my county and area. The national beef checkoff dollar I pay for each animal I sell is not a choice. But the other dollar, which is supposedly aimed at more state research, is shadowed with controversy as to who will benefit or receive the funds.

The dollar I earn for every calf I save during a blizzard should stay to invest in my operation. I think voting **Yes** on **HB 1487** will allow me to have a say as to what I do with any profit I earn. Please think of the young producers who are faced with many payments and financial obligations to make ranch life possible.

Thank you!

JW Froelich
Sioux County Rancher