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**Testimony of Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner
House Concurrent Resolution 3016
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
February 4, 2021**

Chairman Kasper and members of the House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and I am here to provide supporting testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 3016.

There are over 706,000 surface acres managed through the Board of University and School Lands. A major source of income generation is through agricultural leases for grassland, crop, and hay land uses, but the agriculture community has no presence on the board. The surface lease program generated over 17 million dollars in rental income in the 2017-19 biennium. Yet the agriculture community that is generating those funds, has reached out with growing concerns regarding understanding of an agricultural perspective on the Board of University and School Lands.

If the legislative assembly chooses to forward HCR 3016 to the general election, I am willing to serve on the Board should the people of

North Dakota support the proposed change. Chairman Kasper and committee members, thank you and I will stand for any questions.