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**Testimony of  
Matt Perdue  
North Dakota Farmers Union  
Before the  
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee  
February 4, 2021**

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Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 3016. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's (NDFU) members.

NDFU supports HCR 3016. If approved by voters, this change would give farmers and ranchers a stronger voice in the management of the state's university and school lands.

The State of North Dakota currently manages more than 700,000 surface acres. The vast majority of these acres are rented by farmers and ranchers, primarily for grazing purposes. As a result, the major source of income derived from these lands comes from the state's farmers and ranchers, making them an important stakeholder in trust lands management.

As a major stakeholder group, the agriculture community should be represented in management of university and school lands. To that end, we support giving the agriculture commissioner a seat on the Board of University and School Lands.

We urge a "Do Pass" on HCR 3016. Thank you for your consideration.

