



Testimony of Rob Hanson
On behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association
January 28, 2021
In Opposition of SB 2208

Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee,

My name is Rob Hanson and I am the President of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association and I farm near Wimbledon, ND.

My original testimony was based on the original bill so the previously submitted testimony may not totally be relevant with the amendments. We believe these are significant issues that ought to be more thoroughly deliberated over the interim with the various interested stakeholders at the table.

The amendment does make some improvements; however, we have big concerns over the provision on page 19 that appears to exempt those with so-called "higher land" from being assessed. Where does that start? The ambiguity is troubling.

And while the striking of the current drainage complaint process was problematic in the original bill, opening more doors to litigation the amendments "state water commission appeal panel" is further removed from local resolution and could be considered quasi-judicial in nature.

We'd be happy to help work on these issues with the authors and those interested. We realize cleaning up these provisions in century code is not always easy, and many times necessary and so we appreciate your efforts and commitment. I stand ready for any questions. Thank you.