

**North Dakota Stockmen's Association**  
**Testimony to the Senate Agriculture Committee on SB 2216**  
**Jan. 28, 2021**

Good morning, Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee. For the record, my name is Julie Ellingson and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 91-year-old beef cattle trade organization representing approximately 3,000 North Dakota cattle-ranching families.

The Stockmen's Association offers its support to SB 2216, a step in clarifying the setback provision in this area of Code. The bill helps make it explicit that setbacks will be measured from any land zoned as a residential, recreational or commercial zoning district and removes the ambiguity that can be read into the current language, which references the undefined terms of "use " and "purpose" and can cause confusion.

The Stockmen's Association appreciates the work of the legislative body over the past couple of sessions to provide clarity regarding animal feeding operation permitting. It is important for the animal agriculture community, as well as the political subdivisions where these animal feeding operations are located, as both need and deserve regulatory certainty.

We are strong proponents of responsible animal agriculture development and local control and see SB 2216 as checking both those boxes. We ask for your favorable consideration of this bill.