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**Testimony of Darrell Oswald
Chair, North Dakota Ag Coalition
SB 2345
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Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Darrell Oswald, and I am a rancher near Wing, North Dakota. I also serve as the chair of the North Dakota Ag Coalition. It is on behalf of the Ag Coalition that I voice support for SB 2345, specifically as it relates to Section 1; subsection 6 and funding the 2021-2023 SBARE priorities for the NDSU Extension and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, specifically the updated capital improvement requests.

The Ag Coalition has provided a unified voice for North Dakota agricultural interests for over 35 years. Today, we represent more than 40 statewide organizations and associations that represent specific commodities or have a direct interest in agriculture. Through the Ag Coalition, our members seek to enhance North Dakota's agriculture industry.

The Ag Coalition takes a position on a limited number of issues, brought to us by our members, that have significant impact on North Dakota's agriculture industry. The Ag Coalition supports use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the capital improvement requests made by SBARE as ag research and extension continue to be one of the top priorities for North Dakota's crop and livestock producers. North Dakota producers rely on ag research and extension to make decisions to produce the highest quality product that is most economically feasible.

The livestock facilities for Carrington Research Extension Center, Central Grasslands Research Extension Center and Hettinger Research Extension Center will ensure North Dakota is well equipped to provide the research needed by the region's livestock producers.

We appreciate your past support and urge your continued support of research and extension as these programs provide valuable information, education and tools for the state's producers.