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

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4007 and Senate Bill No. 2282. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's (NDFU) members.

NDFU supports SCR 4007 and SB 2282. 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 SCR 4007 and SB 2282. Thank you for your consideration.