

Good afternoon, Chairman Heinert and Education Committee,

My name is Jeremy Maher; I'm from Sioux Co ND, District 31. I'm here today to testify for my support for HB1491 but would like to see some amendments. I would like to include 25 percent of the state's fund for school lunches to be used for purchasing local products such as beef, potatoes, flour, and honey. This would be a win for our children, our schools, and for our ag producers, to keep our tax dollars in the state. We can then source the commodities we can't raise or grow through the federal dollars and keep a portion of the state dollars in our communities. I truly believe with your support we can make the school lunch program better.

I urge you to amend and pass HB 1491.

I'll stand for questions.

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