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**Testimony of
Matt Perdue
North Dakota Farmers Union
Before the
House Education Committee
January 30, 2023**

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill No. 1491. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmers Union's (NDFU) members. NDFU supports HB 1491, which would ensure all students enrolled in public schools can receive a free lunch.

NDFU's member-driven Policy & Action states "we support free school breakfasts and lunch for every child." Our members are proud of their work to provide food, fiber and fuel for our country and world. We feel a strong obligation to connect the food we produce to hungry people, especially those in our own communities. HB 1491 is an important step toward meeting that obligation.

We respectfully request a "Do Pass" recommendation on HB 1491. Thank you.