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NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Testimony of Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner
Senate Transportation Committee
Fort Totten Room
March 23, 2023

Chairman Clemens, and members of the Senate Transportation
Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and I'm here
today in support of House Bill 1519 which would develop UAS grant
program.

The grant funds from this bill could be used to support a project to target invasive noxious weeds in our counties. Our plan would be to support county weed boards in establishing county wide survey for invasive noxious weeds via aircraft. Areas found in survey would then be reviewed by the weed boards staff. If confirmed, then UAS would be used to spot spray affected areas to remove the noxious species. If this model if proven successful after initial grant, it would allow a model for other weed boards to utilize to more rapidly target invasive plant species.

Chairman Clemens, and committee members, thank you for your time and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.