



House Agriculture

SB2274

March 14, 2025

Chairman Beltz and members of the House Agriculture Committee. My name is Wayde Sick, and I serve as the State Director for the Department of Career and Technical Education. I am testifying today in support of SB2274.

The Farm Management Education program is a program that has been administered by the Department of Career and Technical Education for several years. Farm Management Education is a personalized one-on-one service provided to farmers and ranchers. The intent of the education is to learn how to maximize an operation and become as profitable as possible, through data driven decisions. Farm Management Education has been with the Department as it was seen as an extension of High School Agricultural Education programs and due to the relationship the Department has with the organizations that employ the instructors who provide the programming. The Farm Management Education instructors are currently located at the State's Community Colleges, with a few being located at high schools or area career and technology centers in the past.

SB2274 would move the administration of the Farm Management Education program from NDCTE to the Department of Agriculture. Because of the expansion of High School Agricultural Education programs and FFA Chapters, it has been difficult for NDCTE to continue to provide the level of support that the

Farm Management Education Program may require. Also, the mission of the Farm Management Education Program matches closely with much of what the Department of Agriculture strives to achieve. The Department of Agricultural primary customers are farmers and ranchers, while NDCTE works most with educators and students.

The hope with transitioning the Farm Management Program to the Department of Agricultural to help with the recruitment of clients, provide enhanced collaboration, efficiency and effectiveness. I believe this transition will benefit the program and its clients.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to stand for any questions.

Thank you.