

Board of County

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March 24, 2025

Chairman Terry M. Wanzek
Members of Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division
North Dakota State Capitol
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

RE: HB 1591

Chairman Wanzek and Members of Senate Appropriations – Government Operations Division:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of House Bill 1591, one-time funding for the County Fair Resiliency Grant Program. The Cass County Commission has worked closely with Cody Cashman, CEO of the Red River Valley Fair Association to understand the infrastructure and maintenance needs of the Red River Valley Fairgrounds.

Thanks to the hard work of Mr. Cashman, the Commission has a better understanding that many county fairgrounds across North Dakota have similar infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs as the Red River Valley Fairgrounds. Mr. Cashman has forged partnerships to help county fair associations speak with unified message is describing the fairgrounds needs across North Dakota

Because agricultural-based county fairs are such a fundamental part of the state's history and culture, it is appropriate, if not vital, that this funding source be available to county agricultural fair associations to begin addressing the serious infrastructure and maintenance needs of many of North Dakota's county fairs.

We urge your support of HB 1591 and this critically important investment in North Dakota's county fairs.

Sincerely,

Chairman Tony Grindberg
Cass County Commission