Name: Tracy Aune

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Class: Capstone

Change of Branding

Mr. Chairmen and the members of the committee thank you for letting me testify today.

In house bill 1151 we will be advocating to avoid cell-cultured protein getting misbranded. According to U.S. News cell-cultured protein meat is not currently available in any U.S. grocery stores or restaurants, but if this type of meat makes it to North Dakota stores, we want to be proactive and have laws in place for labeling purposes. We don't want people to be deceived by what they are buying. This meat looks and is structurally like traditional meat.

One of the disadvantages of cell-cultured protein meat is that it is more expensive than traditional meat and is not a viable solution for cheap meat for consumers. This is not cost-effective food and can tremendously burden taxpayers if used with state funded programs, such as TANF, to purchase this type of food.

Another disadvantage of cell-cultured meats is the science behind the production of this is rapid cellular regeneration and its potential cancer promoting properties. We already battle cancer enough let alone ingesting toxic food as well.

Ladies and gentlemen, I urge you to pass this bill. As technology works in leaps and bounds, as in growing our food in laboratories, it helps us protect the consumers so that they can clearly identify what they are purchasing.

Thank you.

Self-note: TANF is a government program that gives low-income family funds.