

COMMISSIONER
DOUG GOEHRING



ndda@nd.gov
www.nd.gov/ndda

**NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

STATE CAPITOL
600 E. BOULEVARD AVE. - DEPT. 602
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0020

**Testimony of Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner
Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs
Fort Union
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Chairman Luick, and members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee, I am Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and I'm here today in support of House Bill 1332.

The agriculture diversification and development committee was created as part of the agriculture diversification and development fund (ADD) to provide grants and interest buy downs to projects meeting the requirements of ADD. To date, we have provided funding to 32 projects totaling \$6,646,351 in grants and \$8.6 million in interest buy downs on 19 projects on loans of \$126 million. Primary discussion surrounding HB 1332 is related to a major potato processing company that has a global footprint and wishes to establish a presence in North America. What I find impressive about the company is their commitment and due diligence. They've spent the last three years, studying the economic aspects, agronomy, soils, communities, culture, growers, and transportation. They have even done 2 years of field trials in both Wisconsin and North Dakota. I can truthfully say in all the years that I have worked with Companies and aware of Company activities that were interested in locating in North Dakota I have never seen this type of a thorough review by a company