

In Favor of SB 2174 Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs January 23, 2025

Chairman Luick and Committee members:

For the record, my name is Lesley Icenogle. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association (NDCGA) in favor of Senate Bill 2174.

NDCGA was actively engaged in the Model Zoning Task Force, and we support the revised setback distances in the bill. These setbacks, along with the odor footprint tool under development, are based on sound science and best practices. The odor footprint tool will give political subdivisions flexibility to extend or reduce setback distances based on local conditions.

NDCGA does have one concern with the bill, which is the lack of enforcement for local governments with zoning ordinances that are out of compliance. We would support a mechanism other than a lawsuit to address non-compliance.

NDCGA appreciates the Legislature's investments over the last biennium to expand animal agriculture in the state. SB 2174 will continue that important work. Thank you for your consideration, and I will stand for questions.