

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

12999

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La Costa Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

2003 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1299

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2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1299

House Transportation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 24, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		27.7 to end
1		x	4.0 to 15.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Lauren K. Zink</i>			

Minutes:

Rep. Weisz, Chairman opened the hearing on HB 1299, a bill for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to North Dakota FFA foundation number plates.

Rep. Pollert Representing District 29 is an owner/operator of a grain elevator and a feed plant at Carrington, North Dakota. He is also advisor at the high school for the Carrington FFA chapter. I am here to bring up HB 1299 and to show my support for issuance of distinctive license plant displaying the FFA emblem.

Beth Dakke Stenehjem, Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation. A copy of her written testimony is attached. She also submitted the testimony of Steve Zimmerman, State FFA Advisor who could not be present at this date. A copy of his letter/testimony is attached.

Jason Suydam, Garrison, North Dakota, Past President of the North Dakota FFA. He urged support for this legislation. He noted that 25% of North Dakotans are directly employed in

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House Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date January 24, 2003

agriculutre. this makes it North Dakota's number one industry. This year is the 75th anniversary of FFA in North Dakota. The goal and aim of this bill is to give recognition to FFA and hopefully the recognition will heighten young peoples interest in agriculture and staying in the state. A copy of his testimony is attached.

Rep. Galvin: (39.9) Forget about the emblem and run for the House of Representatives. You did a fine job.

Kevin Teigen: formerly from Rugby, North Dakota and is current state president of FFA. He too noted the 75th anniversary. He also noted the importance of agrinomics. He urged support for this legislation.

Rep. Weisz, Chairman : Is the membership in FFA growing, declining ---? What ages of young people are eligible?

Kevin Treigen: The total number in the state remains fairly constant at about 4,367-- which is quite steady -- but as a per cent of students it is growing. The ages for young people are 13 - 18 year olds. There is an Alumni membership with several classes of memberships available.

Nikki Swanson, Alissa Lick and Stephanie Ill: (47.1) They were from Turtle Lake. They appeared together and each stated her support for the emblem plates. A copy of their state is attached.

Tape 1 Side b

Lucas Kaspari: He is from Lisbon, North Dakota. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Kayla Swanson: She is form Maddock, North Dakota. Her written testimony is attached.

Chelsey Maddock: She is from Maddock, North Dakota. She testified in support of HB 1299 as did the preivious speakers. Her testimony was all oral.

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House Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date January 24, 2003

Rep. Price: (8.4) Has there been any consideration to using this as a fund raiser? There are other organizations in the state which do.

Beth Bakke Stenehjem: There was some discussion of that possibility but it was rejected. That is no our goal. We only want the recognition of 75 years and the work of the youth of this state.

Rep. Price could we raise it to ten dollars to cover the cost or we could perhaps make it more if it would help the foundation?

Beth Bakke Stenehjem: You could raise it to ten dollars to cover the cost but we want to keep it within the limits which young people can afford.

There was wide praise from the members of the committee for the testimony, presentations and the decorum for the young people appearing before the committee.

Keith Kyser: Director of the Motor Vehicle Division of the North Dakota Department of Transportation. He did not appear in opposition nor for the legislation rather he presented information to the committee.

He noted that the current cost of producing the emblem plates is \$ 7.92 and that cost is expected to go up about 10% next year. The second issue which is of some concern and that is how many of these plates will we need to order; and, with that we will need an appropriation for that cost.

Currently the Fire Fighters of North Dakota and the Veterans Cemetery Plates are issued at an additional cost of \$15 annually. For the Fire Fighters fees the extra money goes into the highway fund; and in the case of the Veterans Cemetery -- that money is split with \$10 going to the Adjutant General and \$5 going to the Cemetery Trust fund. There other bills in the legislature which will change some of this regarding the distribution of the Cemetery fees and another collegiate bill calling for an additional \$20 annual fee to go into the scholarship fund.

Y. Costa Rickford
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Date

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House Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date January 24, 2003

Rep. Delmore : (13.7) Is there any cost associated in collecting these funds and then distributing them back out?

Keith Kyser: No, we have the mechanism in place. We pay the money out in lump sums to the State Treasurer. They move them to where ever they are to go.

Rep. Hawken, Vice Chairman: Do the people who have vanity plates -- do they pay a one time fee or is that an annual fee?

Keith Kyser: That is an annual fee --- they pay it each year. It is \$25 per year.

Rep. Schmidt : The Lewis and Clark plates -- that fee comes off -- wha year is that?

Keith Kyser: They are authorized for use currently through the year 2007. There is a one time \$10 fee intended to cover the cost of producing them.

There being no further testimony either for or against HB 1299, Rep. Weisz, Chairman closed the hearing on HB 1299. (15.7).

Tape 1 side b discussion and committee action

(30.3) Rep. Price: I move that we amend line 9 to change the word 'five to 'ten'.

Rep. Delmore : Seconded the motion.

The motion carried on a voice vote.

Rep. Hawken: I move a 'Do Pass as amended' for HB 1299. Rep. Price I second that motion.

On a roll call vote the motion carried 11 ayes 0 nays 2 absent and not voting.

End (35.1)

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/28/2003

Amendment to: HB 1299

1A. **State fiscal effect:** Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2. **Narrative:** Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

This bill, as amended, provides for the issuance of special license plates upon the payment of a one-time fee of \$10. It is not possible to estimate the revenue that may be generated from the provisions of this bill as it is not possible to estimate the number of vehicle owners who would choose to acquire the special license plates. However, it is estimated the one-time \$10 fee will be adequate to cover the cost of manufacturing and distributing the special license plates.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:

A. **Revenues:** Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

B. **Expenditures:** Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

C. **Appropriations:** Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

Name:	Keith Kiser	Agency:	NDDOT
Phone Number:	328-2734	Date Prepared:	01/29/2003

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4P

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/14/2003

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1299

1A. State fiscal effect: Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2. Narrative: Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

This bill provides for the issuance of special license plates upon the payment of a one-time fee of \$5. It is not possible to estimate the revenue that may be generated from the provisions of this bill as it is not possible to estimate the number of vehicle owners who would choose to acquire the special license plates. However, it is estimated the cost to acquire the special license plates will be \$8 per pair of plates, resulting in a net loss of \$3 for each pair of special license plates that are sold.

3. State fiscal effect detail: For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:

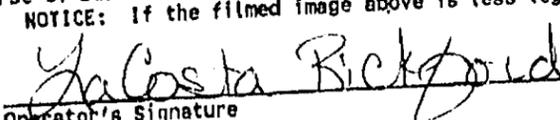
A. Revenues: Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

B. Expenditures: Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

C. Appropriations: Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

Name:	Kelth Kiser	Agency:	ND Dept. of Transportation
Phone Number:	328-2725	Date Prepared:	01/15/2003

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Date

30358.0301
Title.0400

Adopted by the Transportation Committee
January 24, 2003

VR
1/24/03

HOUSE AMENDMENTS to HB 1299 htrn 1-27-03

Page 1, line 9, replace "five" with "ten"

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

30358.0301

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10/3/03
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Date: 1/24/03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1299

House TRANSPORTATION Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 30358.0300

Action Taken Do Pass as Amended

Motion Made By Rep. Harber Seconded By Rep. Price

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Robin Weisz - Chairman	✓		Lois Delmore	✓	
Kathy Hawken - Vice Chairman	✓		Arlo E. Schmidt	✓	
LeRoy G. Bernstein	✓		Elwood Thorpe	✓	
Mark A. Dosch	✓		Steven L. Zaiser	✓	
Pat Galvin	✓				
Craig Headland	✓				
Clara Sue Price	✓				
Dan J. Ruby	✓				
Dave Weiler	✓				

Total Yes 11 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep. Ruby

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

La Costa Rickford 10/3/03
Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 27, 2003 8:54 a.m.

Module No: HR-15-1092
Carrier: Ruby
Insert LC: 30358.0301 Title: .0400

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1299: Transportation Committee (Rep. Welsz, Chairman) recommends
AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS**
(11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1299 was placed on the
Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 9, replace "five" with "ten"

Renumber accordingly

La Costa Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/3/03
Date

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2003 SENATE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1299

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1299

Senate Transportation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3-20 03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		2170-end
1		X	0-48
1		X	1300-1950
2		X	2208-2438

Committee Clerk Signature *Mary K Monson*

Minutes:

Chairman Senator Thomas Trenbeath opened the hearing on HB 1299 relating to North Dakota FFA foundation number plates.

Representative Chet Pollert (District 29) Representing the Vocational Educational Advisory Council as a board member. Introduced HB 1299.

Beth Bakke Stenehjem (Executive Director, ND FFA Foundation) Spoke in support of HB 1299. (See attached license plate information packets.) They are not asking for additional funding from the license plates to go to the FFA Foundation. The FFA emblem, as worn on their blue jackets, remains a constant reminder of what the FFA stands for. That is, a dedication to agriculture education. If this bill is passed, FFA members, former members, and supporters will be given the chance to proudly display this emblem beyond the time they wear their jackets. FFA plays an essential role in educating those who will become our agricultural leaders.

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Date

Page 2
Senate Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date 3-20-03

Senator Nething asked how many FFA members there are in the state.

Beth Stenehjem replied that there are 4,367 members currently.

Senator Nething asked how the numbers have been in the last few years.

Beth Stenehjem thought they had been steady or had even increased.

Senator Taylor asked if she had a goal for how many plates she would like to see sold if this passes.

Beth Stenehjem replied that she didn't really know but thought maybe a thousand.

Steve Zimmerman (State Supervisor for Agricultural Education with the Dept. of Career and Technical Education) (ND State FFA Advisor) See attached testimony in favor of HB 1299.

When you look at the membership as a proportion of the students in the secondary programs in the state, there has actually been a 13% increase in involvement in the last ten years.

Levi Andrist (Member of FFA) Testified in favor of HB 1299. Talked about how FFA has provided him with opportunities for agricultural education, personal growth, and leadership development. Feels that passage of HB 1299 will aid to the awareness of FFA. It will emphasize that FFA is an important organization in ND that enables youth to be properly educated in agriculture, to develop their leadership skills, and to grow as a person.

Senator Nething stated that, up to this point, the special license plates have been limited to special public service type organizations other than the tourist plate which is short term. He asked why, as a private organization, they should be given this recognition.

Levi Andrist (Meter 3910) He felt, overall, that FFA is a public entity. He said it would stimulate participation in FFA.

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Senate Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date 3-20-03

Kevin Teigen (State President, ND FFA) (Meter 4015) Testified in support of HB 1299.

Spoke about his FFA experiences. He said HB 1299 would promote optimism in agriculture. It would show how important agriculture is to ND and how important our youth are to ND.

Nathan Popiel (SW Region Vice President, ND FFA) Testified in support of HB 1299. He talked about the FFA program and how important it is.

Luke Kaspari (Member of FFA) Testified in support of HB 1299. Talked about how FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students and how he has personally benefited from FFA.

Nicole Swanson (Member of FFA) and **Alissa Lick** (Member of FFA) (Meter 5590) Testified in support of HB 1299. They explained the FFA emblem which would appear on the license plates.

Keith Klser (ND DOT) In a neutral position. Asked for clarification as to whether the \$10 is a one time fee or is an annual fee.

Senator Trenbeath answered that he understood it to be an annual fee.

The hearing on HB 1299 was closed.

(Tape 1, Side B, Meter 1300) Discussion by the committee members indicated support for the FFA organization. There was some talk about other states and the number of special license plates they have. It was the consensus of the group that this would be opening it up to any group. That hasn't been the purpose in the past.

Senator Mutch moved a **Do Not Pass**. Seconded by **Nething**. Roll call vote 0-5-0. **Failed**.

Senator Taylor moved a **Do Pass**. There was no second.

There was a short discussion indicating concern with not being able to stop with this organization.

Page 4
Senate Transportation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1299
Hearing Date 3-20-03

Senator Nething moved a Do Not Pass. Seconded by Senator Espegard. Roll call vote 4-1-1.

Floor carrier is Senator Mutch.

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Date: 3-20-03
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1299

Senate TRANSPORTATION Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Does not pass

Motion Made By Senator Nothing Seconded By Senator Espgaard

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Thomas Trenbeath, Chair	✓		Senator Dennis Bercier		
Senator Duaine Espgaard, V. Chair	✓		Senator Ryan Taylor		✓
Senator Duane Mutch	✓				
Senator Dave Nothing	✓				

Total (Yes) 4 No 1

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Senator Mutch

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La Costa Rickford 10/3/03
Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 20, 2003 4:14 p.m.

Module No: SR-50-5385
Carrier: Mutch
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1299, as engrossed: Transportation Committee (Sen. Trenbeath, Chairman)
recommends DO NOT PASS (4 YEAS, 1 NAY, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
Engrossed HB 1299 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-50-5385

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2003 TESTIMONY

HB 1299

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HB 1299

Transportation Committee

January 24, 2003

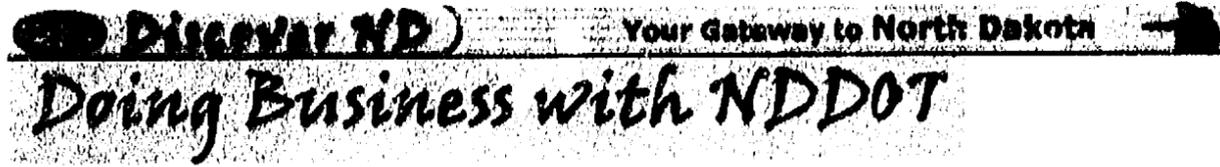
FFA License Plates



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Date



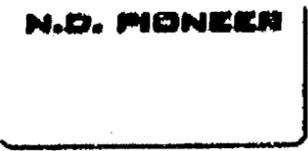
Special Letter Plate Search

Special Letter Plate Search

License Plate: (A-Z, 0-9, & or space)

1. Choose a **Plate Style** by selecting the radio button next to the plate you desire
2. Select **Search Button** located at bottom of this page

Plate Styles

<input checked="" type="radio"/>  Standard (7 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  N.D. PIONEER PEACE GARDEN STATE Antique (7 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  ND COLLECTOR PEACE GARDEN STATE Collector (7 characters max.)
<input type="radio"/>  Airforce (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Navy (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  NORTH DAKOTA NG PEACE GARDEN STATE National Guard (4 characters max.)
<input type="radio"/>  Army (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Coast Guard (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Marines (5 characters max.)
<input type="radio"/>  Lewis & Clark (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Purple Heart (5 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Firefighters (5 characters max.)
<input type="radio"/>  Standard Trailer (7 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  N.D. PIONEER Antique Motorcycle (6 characters max.)	<input type="radio"/>  Official (7 characters max.)

<http://web.apps.state.nd.us/dot/mv/plate/search>

01/23/2003

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Agriculture and FFA License Plates in other States

Arizona Ag License Plate (FFA membership 3,589)

Arizona is currently getting people to sign up to purchase the agriculture license plates, in order for the state to produce them. The plate will benefit the FFA.

Arizona has approximately 20 specialty plate available.

Florida Ag License Plate (FFA membership 12,781)

The Florida Department of Motor Vehicles has approximately 55 specialty plates. To pass a specialty plate in Florida, an organization needs to have 10,000 signature pledges from state residents on their intent to buy the plates if approved by the legislature. Florida started selling the ag license plates in 1997. In 2001, 15,139 plates and tabs were sold. The number of vehicles on the road in Florida is 12,701,234. Florida requires tab renewal every year. Each plate costs \$58.60 (tab renewal is \$22), \$38.60 going to the state (for tab renewal \$2 going to the state) and \$20 going to the Florida Ag in the Classroom. Plate sales generated revenue of approximately \$303,000 in 2001.

Funds raised are deposited with the Florida Ag in the Classroom, Inc.

Georgia Ag License Plate (FFA membership 21,781)

Georgia is currently in the process of trying to establish an ag plate. The state currently has over 50 different specialty plates.

Indiana FFA License Plate (FFA membership 8,417)

Has a separate FFA and 4-H plate. The FFA plate costs \$40.00 with \$25.00 going towards the Indiana FFA Foundation.

Iowa FFA License Plate (FFA membership 11,379)

The Iowa Department of Motor Vehicles offers one place on the license to have a design, so Iowa has chosen to put the FFA logo on the plate. Each plate costs \$35 (\$15 for renewal) \$10 going to the state and \$25 going to the FFA Foundation (for tab renewal \$5 going to the state and \$10 going to the FFA Foundation). If 2,000 plates are sold, \$13,500 will go to the FFA Association. The first 50 plates with numbers 1 through 50 will be auctioned to the highest bidder. The plate has just been finished and no numbers on sales are available.

Kentucky Ag License Plate (FFA membership 13,366)

Has a plate with both the FFA and 4-H symbols on it.

Louisiana Ag License Plate (FFA membership 10,515)

The Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicles has over 160 specialty plates. To pass a specialty plate in Louisiana two years ago, an organization needed to pre-sell 100 plates and be approved by the legislature. Now, an organization must pre-sell 1,000 plates. Louisiana started selling the ag license plates in 2000. In 2000 and 2001, approximately 300 plates were sold. The number of vehicles on the road in Louisiana is 7,015,644. Louisiana requires car tab renewal every other year and truck tab renewal

La Costa Rickford
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Date

every four years. Each plate costs \$22.50 (tab renewal is also \$22.50), \$3.50 going to the state and \$19 going to the Louisiana Ag in the Classroom Foundation, Inc. Plate sales generated revenue of approximately \$2,850 in 2001.

The funds are given to teacher training and programs that reach students of all ages across the state to teach students about agriculture and its impact on everything from our economy to our environment.

Maryland Ag License Plate (FFA membership 1,238)

The Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles has 520 specialty plates. To pass a specialty plate in Maryland, an organization has to commit to the state enough money from the initial sales of the plate to cover the cost of the drums to make the plates and be approved by the legislature. Maryland started selling the ag license plates in 2001. Since July 1, 2001, approximately 60,000 plates were sold. The number of vehicles on the road in Maryland is 3,068,241. Maryland requires car tab renewal either every year or every other year. Each plate costs \$20.00 (tab renewal is also \$20.00), \$10 going to the state (until the money is recouped for the drums), and \$10 going to the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation which benefits the Maryland Agricultural Education Leadership Council, Maryland Ag in the Classroom Foundation, and FFA Foundation. After the state has covered the cost of the drums, \$8 will go to the state and \$12 will go to the foundation. Plate sales generated revenue of approximately \$600,000 since July 1, 2001.

The funds are given to education programs with most of the money focusing on teacher workshops and a traveling agriculture unit that spends a week at each school.

Michigan Ag License Plate (FFA membership 5,208)

Michigan has an "Agricultural Heritage" plate that benefits the Michigan FFA Foundation. The cost is \$35.

Mississippi Ag License Plate (FFA membership 4,341)

Mississippi's ag license plate has passed the Legislature. Mississippi is in the process of designing an agricultural license plate and is currently pre-selling the required 200 plates before the plate can be printed. Each plate will cost \$30 (tab renewal is \$30), \$5 going to the state, \$1 going back to the county it is sold in, and \$24 going to the FFA Foundation. The plate was passed last year in April by the Mississippi legislature and has just started the pre-selling process.

Montana FFA License Plate (FFA membership 2,560)

The Montana Department of Motor Vehicles has 12 organizational plates. The plate has just made available for sale in August of 2002 but has already sold several hundred. Each plate costs \$30 (tab renewal is \$15), \$10 going to a one-time fee by the County Treasurer, \$5 going to the state, and \$15 going to the Montana FFA Foundation.

New York Ag License Plate (FFA membership 3,503)

New York has a license plate that benefits Ag in the Classroom.

Ohio FFA License Plate (FFA membership 21,419)

The Ohio Department of Motor Vehicles has had an FFA plate for about two years. About 700 plates are targeted to sell this year. Each plate costs \$25 (tab renewal is \$25), \$10 going to the state, and \$15 going to the Ohio FFA Foundation.

Oklahoma Ag License Plate (FFA membership 22,122)

Oklahoma passed an FFA license plate and has just produced their first plates.

Tennessee Ag License Plate (FFA membership 12,602)

The Tennessee Department of Safety has 182 specialty plates. This number includes veterans, specialized, collegiate, etc. To pass a specialty plate in Tennessee, an organization needs to pre-sell 100 plates and be approved by the legislature. Tennessee started selling the ag license plates in 1998. In 2001, 12,000 plates and tabs were sold. The number of vehicles on the road in Tennessee is 5,876,324. Tennessee requires tab renewal every year. Each plate costs \$25 (tab renewal is also \$25), \$5 going to the state and \$20 being split among four programs. Plate sales generated revenue of about \$250,000 in 2001. The four programs supported include 4H, FFA, Ag in the Classroom under the Farm Bureau fund, and the Department of Agriculture for a number of marketing development programs.

The funds are donated from these four organizations to programs in a 50 to 50 percent matching grant. Incentive programs are available for the 4H and FFA foundations; members of these programs can recruit individuals to buy the ag license and then the organization receives the whole \$20.

HB 1299

Testimony in FAVOR

Beth Bakke Stenehjem, Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation

701-224-8390 (work) 701-471-5004 (cell)

January 24, 2003

Good morning, Chairman Weisz and members of the House Transportation committee. My name is Beth Bakke Stenehjem, and I am the Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation. I am here today to ask for your support of HB 1299.

"I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds." This simple statement is the opening line of the FFA creed. This small statement tells much about what the FFA stands for. The FFA is a state organization with a total of 4,367 members who primarily are from the ages of 13-18. The national FFA organization has over 450,000 members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

It is a group of young people who are interested in agriculture. It is a wonderful organization that works to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. But I don't want to focus on how wonderful the FFA is – because the FFA students that are here today are better qualified to address this.

What I would like to focus on are issues about the license plate and to address the fiscal note attached to the bill.

As you can see on the front of the packet I handed to you, the FFA license plate would not look much different than the regular license plates on North Dakota vehicles. In the left hand corner, the FFA emblem would be displayed with a possibility of 5 characters to the right. This plate follows the example of the Air Force license plates. I have in the handout a copy of the specialty plates that are now available on the second page.

I also have included a list of other states that have agriculture or FFA license plates; this information is on the yellow sheets. I added this information for you for two reasons. First, this may give you an idea of how many plates may be sold. If you look at Montana on the second yellow sheet, you will notice that they have an FFA membership of 2,560, which is nearly 2,000 fewer FFA members than we have in North Dakota. The Montana Department of Motor Vehicles has twelve organizational

plates while North Dakota currently has ten specialty plates. Since last August, Montana has sold several hundred plates.

Second, this list also gives you an idea of how many states believe it is important to acknowledge the essential role agriculture has in their state's economy. In North Dakota, agriculture is a \$3.8 billion industry with nearly 24% of ND workers who are farmers, ranchers, or employed in farm-related jobs. Who is training our young people for these professions? Certainly, FFA has a place in educating the young people who will become our economic base in years to come.

I would like to now turn your attention to the fiscal note. When Representative Martinson was helping me research the viability of this bill, we went to Keith Magnuson at the Department of Motor Vehicles. He suggested that we call Rough Rider Industries to ask them about the cost. Dennis Fracassi told us the sticker for the logo would cost approximately \$1. It was never our intention to have the state of North Dakota pay for a portion of each license plate. If \$8 is indeed the cost, we are more than willing to increase the fee from \$5 to \$8. Our intention was only to make this as affordable as possible for students and supporters of the FFA to purchase the plate.

Finally, I would like to turn to the FFA jacket. The FFA jacket has not changed much since 1933 when it was first adopted. The emblem on the back of the jacket has remained a constant reminder of what the FFA stands for: dedication to agricultural education. At the National Convention last fall, it was quite a sight – a sea of over 51,000 blue corduroy jackets being worn by proud members of the FFA. I only mention the jacket because members proudly display this emblem every time they attend an official function and every time they are representing their chapter or the state association. I remember wearing the FFA jacket myself while competing in parliamentary procedure contests, crops judging, speech contests, and attending leadership training conferences. If HB 1299 is passed, you will be giving FFA members, former members, and FFA supporters the chance to also proudly display this emblem beyond the time they wear the blue corduroy jackets.

As an FFA alumni, I still believe in the future of agriculture and still believe that the FFA plays an essential role in educating those who will become our agricultural leaders.

I thank you for your time and hope that you will support HB 1299.

I'd be pleased to answer any questions you may have.



FFA THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

NORTH DAKOTA FFA ASSOCIATION State Capitol 15th Floor, 600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept 270, Bismarck, ND 58505-0610
Supported by the State Board For Vocational and Technical Education

Date: January 24, 2003
From: Steve Zimmerman, State FFA Advisor
To: House Transportation Committee
Re: HB1299

Good morning chairman Weisz and members of the House Transportation committee.

My name is Steve Zimmerman and I am the State Supervisor for Agricultural Education with the State Board for Vocational & Technical Education. I also serve as the North Dakota State FFA Advisor. I'm not able to be with you today as I'm fulfilling a previously scheduled obligation with the National FFA Organization's Board of Directors.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support HB1299 and the visibility it provides the FFA for several reasons:

1. FFA (Often referred to as "The Future Farmers of America".) has been an integral component of both North Dakota Agriculture and the North Dakota Public school system since 1929. Its relationship to Agricultural Education goes back to a recognition of the important part a student organization could play in a program conceived and implemented by the federal "Smith-Hughes Act" of 1917 and was reinforced in 1950 with the passage of "Public Law 740" which provides federal charter and defines FFA as an intra-curricular component of the total Agricultural Education program. FFA is not a "club". Rather, FFA is a component of the total Agricultural Education program.
2. Recognition of the FFA is an acknowledgement of the continued success of the Agricultural Education program. Initially, the programs were put in place to assure that skilled agricultural labor essential to a sound national defense, thrived. As the knowledge and skills essential to maintaining a strong agricultural base changed, so changed Agricultural Education and the FFA. Career awareness and curriculum are now offered in leadership,

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FFA THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
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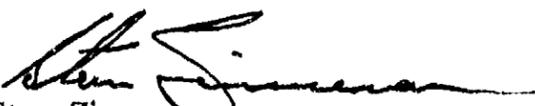
NORTH DAKOTA FFA ASSOCIATION State Capitol 15th Floor, 600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept 270, Bismarck, ND 58505-0610
Supported by the State Board For Vocational and Technical Education

agri-business, animal science, agronomy, soil science, aquaculture, horticulture, natural resources & environment, biotechnology, mechanics, computer science and many more.

3. FFA goes beyond being another school organization. FFA has become a major part of the community. The FFA mission is: *FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.* Focusing this mission on the needs of the community have and will continue to serve North Dakotans with a positive view of whom we are and what we represent.

Finally, my support for this bill is of a personal nature. I grew up on a small grain/ dairy farm about seven miles north of Bowdon. As a High School student at Fessenden, I became a chapter member and eventually, an officer in the local FFA chapter and later, the state association. The impact that FFA has had on me has lead to a career of 21 years as an Agricultural Education instructor at Towner and now, State Supervisor for almost five years. If I were here today you would find a Pontiac in the north parking lot with North Dakota license plate "FA". Passage of this bill would provide the same opportunity for others to demonstrate their pride in this outstanding youth organization. I would encourage your favorable consideration.

Most sincerely,


Steve Zimmerman
State FFA Advisor
szimmern@state.nd.us
328-3162

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I would like to encourage your support of House Bill 1299.

Last year I had the pleasure of serving as the North Dakota State FFA President. The organization has deeply impacted myself, as well as many other North Dakotan Agriculturalists. In celebration of 75 years of North Dakota FFA, I believe adopting an FFA license plate would pay tribute to an organization with deep roots in our state.

Agriculture is such an important industry to North Dakota. According to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service: Agriculture is North Dakota's number one industry. More than 25% of North Dakota's population is directly employed by agriculture.

North Dakota FFA has been instrumental in preparing students for successful lives. Thousands of current and former FFA members have had the opportunity to discover premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.

I know I can speak for anyone that has slipped into one of those blue and gold jackets, we all take great pride in our organization. Although I may have outgrown my FFA jacket, I will never outgrow the experience. It is because of my extreme pride in our organization, I strongly encourage you to support House Bill 1299 and pay tribute to an organization that has been making a positive difference in the lives of so many people, schools, and communities.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Suydam
667 Washington Drive
Garrison, ND 58540



FFA THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

NORTH DAKOTA FFA ASSOCIATION State Capitol 15th Floor, 600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept 270, Bismarck, ND 58505-0610
Supported by the State Board For Vocational and Technical Education

Good morning, my name is Rick Zarda, I'm from
Maddock, ND. I'm here today on behalf of the Maddock
F.F.A. Chapter and to represent 4300 other FFA
members.

I'm here this morning to speak in front of HB 1299
~~that~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~needed~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~state~~ ~~of~~ ~~North~~ ~~Dakota~~
You may wonder why an organization would have
I feel that FFA should have license plates. This July, the N.D. FFA
has ^{and continues working} taught thousands of young people premier leadership,
personal growth, and career success. Speaking from personal experience, through
the FFA I've gained excellent skills. Skills that have enabled me to earn
over \$13,000 ^{in scholarships} that I can use for college. When in college I can think of
no better way to thank this organization for what they have done to
show people everywhere what the FFA can do.

Chairman Weiss and representatives, I'd like to thank you for
time to consider this bill.

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Mr.

~~Madam~~ Chairperson, committee members:

My name is Kevin Teigen, I'm originally from Rugby and I stand before you representing over 4300 FFA members across the state.

I realize that some may meet this idea for special edition license plates with skepticism. You may think that our request for license plates is a strange one, however across the nation there are a number of states that have this option available to motorists.

- Currently, both Indiana and Kentucky offer license plates with the FFA and 4-H emblems.
- Michigan has an "Agricultural Heritage" plate.
- Georgia is working on developing an agricultural plate.
- Arizona and Mississippi are currently pre-selling a minimum quantity of plates before they go into production, Oklahoma is one step ahead of them with plates already being produced.
- In 2001, Louisiana raised almost \$3,000 for agriculture education teacher instruction programs through the sales generated from their ag license plate.
- New York gives proceeds from its ag license plate to Ag in the Classroom.
- Ohio and Iowa's FFA plate generates funds for both the state and the FFA foundation, creating a win-win situation.
- Maryland has a license plate program in place and has raised approximately \$600,000 since July 1, 2001 and has invested this money in programs to help teachers and programs that can travel to schools to teach the story of agriculture.
- The \$303,000 that Florida's program raised in one year goes to a different ag education program each year.
- Closer to home, Montana's plates were made available in August and met great success, already selling several hundred.
- The \$250,000 generated by Tennessee's ag license plate was distributed between FFA and three other groups that promote the future of agriculture.

Another thought running through your head may be, "Why now? What is the catalyst that has spurred the organization to act at this time?" There are two main reasons in my mind why the time is right to have these license plates.

First off, North Dakota FFA will be celebrating its diamond jubilee this year. This is more than just a cake-and-ice-cream birthday party to us. This is a major milestone- three quarters of a century of teaching students the talents and abilities to take leadership roles in their homes, schools, communities, and even as members of the state government. In fact there are a number of your colleagues in both the House and the Senate, even on this committee, who once wore the blue corduroy jacket.

The second major reason isn't as confined to our organization, but is for the sake of the entire state and is well understood by everybody who is familiar with the current agronomic situation. It is no news to any of you that in the last few years the agricultural economy has fallen on some tough times. In fact earlier this week, there was a forum scheduled that was to address ways for those of us involved with the agriculture industry to stay positive about the future. Even though I think that it's important for people to stay optimistic about the future, I also feel that it is a sad state of affairs when we need to have people brainstorm different things to be happy about. Ever since the days of the bonanza farms, agriculture has been the premier industry in the state. It has been our "goose that

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lays the golden eggs" and now it appears that the goose is sick. Agriculture is the lifeblood of our small towns, and is largely responsible for the core values that make our state the great place that it is. It is of utmost importance that we don't lose sight of the ideals of our industry. If people can have this highly recognizable emblem adorning their license plates, it will serve as a reminder to all who see it that there is another generation of leaders waiting to take the reins of the industry, another generation of agriculturists striving to become the best leaders, citizens, and agriculturists that they can be. THIS is a way for us to give a subtle reminder to all those farmers in discouraging situations, that there is hope.

Earlier this year, I was at a training conference for FFA State Officers. At that conference, there was a speech delivered that I will never forget. One of the stories this man told us was of some people he knew who live on the eastern side of a mountain. They live on the eastern side, the sunrise side, not the sunset side. Those people look to the coming day, not the day that has ended. Ever since that day that George W. Bush spoke those words to us FFA members I've carried them in my heart and tried to apply that philosophy. I believe that this is our chance. This is our chance to show that we as a state are looking to the rising sun, the new day, the next generation, and to the promise of tomorrow. This is our chance to let people all around the state to make a symbolic stand and profess their belief in the first line of our organization's creed: "I believe in the future of agriculture..." I do believe. Thousands more North Dakotans believe. Let's show the rest of the country that we ALL believe. Let the message of belief and hope for the future of North Dakota agriculture be proudly displayed on our motor vehicles.

For a long time, North Dakota has said, "Our most valuable resource is our youth." This is a great way for us as a state to show that we mean it. Let's show our youth how valued they are and put the emblem of the largest youth organization in the state on some license plates.

To the world, it may seem like little, but to a little amount, it may be the world.

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10/3/03
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WTC

Alissa Lick
&
Stephanie Lee

Good morning Chairman Weisz + members of the House Transportation Committee, I'm with Swanson + ~~we~~ we're honored to be here representing the Turtle Lake - Mercer FFA Chapter. The FFA, what can I say? There are so many positive things to mention. The FFA is preparing tomorrow's leaders today and they don't get enough recognition for it. ~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~the~~ impacts our youth and prepares us for a future in agriculture and many careers. It is the largest youth organization for grades 7-12 and deserves much more recognition. This leads me to our FFA parliamentary opening ceremonies. "Why are we here?" That question is asked at our meetings, banquet, convention, & many other FFA events. The answer? To practice brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities & responsibilities, and develop those qualities of leadership, which an FFA member should possess, which I truly believe the FFA does & should be recognized for.

on the record
code name

As Chapter reporter, I know & understand how ^{key} ~~important~~ public relations are to the FFA. An FFA license plate would emphasize the importance that ~~the~~ the organization has in our state. The FFA is a national organization that "reaches from the state of Alaska to Puerto Rico and from the state of Maine to Hawaii." An organization as widespread and awesome as the FFA deserves recognition. Other license plates have been designed to honor ~~people~~ individuals and organizations that have impacted our lives. FFA impacts the lives of youth across the state and nation. Does it not deserve the same recognition. ~~the~~

change awareness
just for farm kids

Y. Costa Rickford
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Mr Chairman, my home is Alissa Lick. I have been involved in FFA for 5 years now and enjoy every minute of it. I like to cover what's on the emblem. First of all, the symbols on the emblem is the eagle which symbolizes our nation. The next is the stars & stripes on the shield, which symbolizes patriotism. A few others are the plow which show labor & tillage of the soil. This one is very important since ND is an agricultural state. The owl and ear are the other two. So the FFA emblem not only represents FFA but also our state & nation.

The FFA has so many different events that help young adults for their future.

Thank you Chairman Weiss & members of the House Transportation Committee for hearing our testimony today. And we hope you will support ~~HR~~ 1299 House Bill.

Good morning Chairman Weisz, and members of the House Transportation Committee. My name is Luke Kaspari. I am a Sophomore and a FFA Officer from Lisbon, ND.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to explain why I enthusiastically support House Bill 1299.

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

That is the mission statement of the National FFA Organization. In order to accomplish our mission statement, chapters across the state, and across the nation actively work toward:

- Increasing awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well being.
- Encouraging wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of our communities.
- Building character and promoting citizenship, and patriotism.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and excellence in academics.

Those statements are taken from my textbook and may sound a little stuffy, but I can tell you that I personally have benefited from my involvement in FFA.

One area that comes to mind is my participation on the Livestock Judging Team. During judging, I have learned how to use my knowledge of livestock to correctly place the class. I then stand before a judge, orally defending my placements with a set of sound reasons. Because of this experience, I have gained the self-confidence and composure needed to speak publicly.

Which brings me to another area. . . . Parliamentary Procedure. I am sure we have all been part of meetings that have dissolved into disarray and confusion. By being involved on the Parley Pro Team, I have gained valuable skills on how to properly conduct a meeting. This involves structuring an agenda, addressing the points in order, paying attention to proper majority on votes, and the recognition and courtesy due the speaker. This year I plan to make use of these skills as I participate in the national FFA Convention in Louisville, the Global Youth Leadership Conference at the UN, and the national FBLA Convention in Dallas.

So you see, Mr. Chairman, the programs offered by FFA greatly impact the development of the students involved. These programs are possible because people have made a conscious effort to fund and support them. I see this bill as being another opportunity to visibly promote and financially fund North Dakota's FFA.

This bill has my enthusiastic support, and I urge you to give it your strong recommendation.

Thank you.

Date: March 20 , 2003
From: Steve Zimmerman, State FFA Advisor
To: Senate Transportation Committee
Re: HB1299

Good morning chairman Trenbeath and members of the Senate Transportation committee.

My name is Steve Zimmerman and I am the State Supervisor for Agricultural Education with the Department of Career & Technical Education. I also serve as the North Dakota State FFA Advisor.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support HB1299 and the visibility it provides the FFA for several reasons:

1. FFA (Often referred to as "The Future Farmers of America") has been an integral component of both North Dakota Agriculture and the North Dakota Public school system since 1929. FFA is an organization of over 4,300 secondary students in our state and over 456,000 nationwide. In its seventy-four years of existence, over 125,000 North Dakotan's have taken part in the FFA leadership experience. It's relationship to Agricultural Education goes back to a recognition of the important part a student organization could play in a program conceived and implemented by the federal "Smith-Hughes Act" of 1917 and was reinforced in 1950 with the passage of "Public Law 740" which provides federal charter and defines FFA as an intra-curricular component of the total Agricultural

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Education program. FFA is not a "club". Rather, FFA is a component of the total Agricultural Education program.

2. Recognition of the FFA is an acknowledgement of the continued success of the Agricultural Education program. Initially, the programs were put in place to assure that skilled agricultural labor essential to a sound national defense, thrived. As the knowledge and skills essential to maintaining a strong agricultural base changed, so changed Agricultural Education and the FFA. Career awareness and curriculum are now offered in leadership, agri-business, animal science, agronomy, soil science, aquaculture, horticulture, natural resources & environment, biotechnology, mechanics, computer science and many more.
3. FFA goes beyond being another school organization. FFA has become a major part of the community. The FFA mission is: *FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.* Focusing this mission on the needs of the community have and will continue to serve North Dakotans with a positive view of whom we are and what we represent.

I realize that there have been a number of discussions in the halls, or the floor of the House and in the media concerning this bill. I would like to paraphrase some of the questions raised along with providing you with what I see as possible answers.

1. *"Approval of this license plate would detract from those groups whom have previously been granted plates."* A North Dakota license plate with an FFA emblem on it will not take away the feelings of appreciation that we all feel for the members of the North Dakota National Guard, our dedicated Firefighters or any other group that is recognized in such fashion. Rather, it would give us the opportunity to recognize a group of our citizens who are our future Guards members, our future Firefighters our future farmers and agriculturalists.
2. *"If a plate is approved for the FFA, approvals would have to be given to all similar youth organizations."* If an educational youth organization demonstrates a concern for the State of North Dakota and willingly participates in the development of leadership, citizenship and career success for the state of North Dakota Yes, they should be provided the same opportunity to demonstrate their pride.

Finally, my support for this bill is of a personal nature. I grew up on a small grain/ dairy farm about seven miles north of Bowdon. As a High School student at Fessenden, I became a chapter member and eventually, an officer in the local FFA chapter and later, the state FFA association. The impact that FFA has had on me has lead to a career of 21 years as an Agricultural Education instructor at Towner and now, State Supervisor for almost five years. In the north parking lot here at the Capitol is my car with North Dakota license plate "FFA". Passage of this bill would provide the same opportunity for others to demonstrate their pride in this outstanding youth organization. I would encourage your favorable consideration.

La Costa Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/3/03
Date