



**Testimony of Brenda Elmer  
On behalf of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association  
February 1, 2021  
In Support of 1431**

Chairman Delzer and members of the House Appropriations Committee,

My name is Brenda Elmer and I am the Executive Director of the North Dakota Corn Growers Association. On behalf of our state's corn growers, I express our support of HB 1431.

The North Dakota Corn Growers Association supports the funding of the Agricultural Product Development Center, including the Northern Crops Institute. Funding these initiatives will help support the ever-changing agriculture scene in our state. These are important institutions to showcase North Dakota's ag products to the world, greatly increasing demand for our corn and other commodities and thereby increasing revenue not only for our growers, but for our state.

In particular, NCI has a long-standing reputation for being a jewel to northern ag and it needs and deserves adequate resources to continue its effective partnership with us in North Dakota.

We couldn't pass up the opportunity however, to say that we are greatly disappointed that the revised bonding proposal de-prioritized our local roads. They are in great need of deferred maintenance, many in tremendous disrepair and are a hinderance not only to our growers in agriculture but a numerous industries and North Dakotans in general. To continue to put such investments off will prove to be more costly to the taxpayers as inflation costs mount. Please, do everything you can to find funding for transportation in our state. It is extremely critical.

Thank you for your time and consideration.