Chairman Holmberg, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, for the record my name is Dan Wogsland, Executive Director of the North Dakota Grain Growers Association (NDGGA). NDGGA, through our contracts with the North Dakota Wheat Commission and the North Dakota Barley Council, engages in domestic policy issues on the state and federal level on behalf of North Dakota wheat and barley farmers. I am providing testimony for you today on behalf of NDGGA in support SB 2345, Section 1, subsection number 3, which appropriates $75 million to the Department of Water Resources for the purpose of water infrastructure projects in North Dakota.

Chairman Holmberg, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, you are very much aware of the need for orderly water management for the successful operation of agriculture in the state of North Dakota. Water management is a key component which allows North Dakota farmers and ranchers to provide the food and fiber necessary to satisfy the needs of citizens across the globe. Additionally, orderly water management allows North Dakota to provide water for its citizens as well as protect them in times of both drought and floods. SB 2345, Section 1 subsection 6 provides the North Dakota Department of Water Resources the added ability to address the water management needs of the state which will help to enhance the state’s economy in virtually every sector.

Therefore the North Dakota Grain Growers Association would respectfully request that the Senate Appropriations Committee give its support to SB 2345, Section 1 subsection 6 and the Association would hope that the full Senate would concur.