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 of SB 2345, Section 1, subsection 6, which provides needed capital improvements for NDSU Ag Research and Extension.

Chairman Holmberg, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, agriculture research and extension is a vital component in the success for North Dakota agriculture. The over $8 million of capital improvements outlined in SB 2345, Section 1, subsection 6, provide essential upgrades for the research and extension network which will pay dividends to the North Dakota economy. These improvements will enhance the ability for ag research and extension to respond to the ag industry needs in the state and will help to better address the challenges North Dakota farmers and ranchers have in their quest to feed the world.

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