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*Equal Opportunity in Employment and Services*

**Testimony of Kenneth S. Junkert  
North Dakota Department of Agriculture  
Plant Industries Program Manager  
House Bill 1549  
Senate Agriculture Committee  
Roosevelt Park Room  
February 27, 2009**

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Chairman Flakoll and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am Ken Junkert, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture Plant Industries Program Manager. I am here today in support of Engrossed HB 1549, which adds state licensing requirements for any person intending to grow or process industrial hemp for research purposes and removes the licensing requirement from any person licensed by the United States Drug Enforcement Agency to conduct research.

In order to conduct industrial hemp research, NDSU recently entered into a memorandum of agreement with the United States Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration. The agreement dictates specific control measures to ensure accountability and prevent diversion of industrial hemp. More specifically, DEA is requiring NDSU to keep extensive records, monitor all planting and harvesting activities, and provide extensive security measures to protect the research site. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture believes it is unnecessary for NDSU

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to enter into a research agreement with DEA and be licensed by the state to conduct the same research.

Chairman Flakoll and committee members, I urge a “do pass” on Engrossed HB 1549. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.