Budget cuts could be made by embracing technology for trainings, meetings etc. Less need for motels, meals, travel etc. Save time & $.

SBARE Stakeholder Written Testimony
NDSU-Ext. & ND Ag Experiment Stations
NDSU
Dept 7520 PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

SBARE and To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your time and interest in the future of North Dakota. I am always looking forward to the next legislative session and the impact we can make as rural and community members.

I would like to express my concern on the direction of NDSU Extension Service and ND Ag Experiment Stations. NDSU-Extension brings education and awareness from youth to senior citizens. Budget cuts are inevitable, but ND is a grass roots-boots on the ground state. We are lucky to have a land grant university that provides information and resources to the rural Ag communities on so many levels. Teaching the next generations, as well as the current, on all the possibilities in the Ag and rural community sectors. The scope of duties that Extension encompasses is untouchable by any other organization and they need to be there for all the great partnerships they have formed. Without them, many other organizations longevity will be in the air as well.

Attached are ways that NDSU-Extension reaches me on a personal level, either currently or in the past. You will see that for myself, along with many others, the impact is in more than a single area. As a state, we cannot afford to lose many of these programs and the employees that implement them. Much appreciation is given for the opportunity for those who are and will be directly affected by this to give their testimony.

I ask that you recommend to the Legislature and the Governor that an investment in NDSU-Extension is an investment in ND rural communities, counties, and our great state.

With much appreciation,

Joel Gaugh - Producer & County SCD Supervisor

[Diagram of different categories of stakeholders: Farmer/Rancher, Board or Committee Member-City, Board or Committee Member-City, Ag Related Career, Business/Finance Career, Education-Student, Teacher, Research, etc., Transportation Career, Community Resident, Rural Resident, Government-City, State, County, Federal]
NDSU Impacts Me In These Areas:
(Check ALL that apply and add additional if needed)

**Family & Consumer Sciences**
- Health/Nutrition Programs
- Finance Programs
  - Angie's
- Million Hearts Campaign
- Local Business Owner
- Family Programs
- Community Vitality
- Agri-Tourism
- Planning Committee - Community, State
- Board Member in my community
- IMPACT presentations
- ND Historical Society
- Rural Leadership ND
- Food Safety Programs

**County Extension**
- Crop Improvement
- Weed Program
- Staff
- Volunteer
- Advisory Committee
- Grants
- Local Workshops/Projects

**4-H**
- Camps
- Staff
- Parent
- Volunteer
- Member
- Alumni
- Foundation
- Scholarships/Donations
- Leader
- Ambassador
- Project Days

**Ag & Natural Resources**
- Drought!
- NDSU Apps/NDAWN
- Energy Programs
- Master Gardener Programs or Trials
- Community/Home Garden & Horticulture
- Crop/Livestock Economics
- Manure/Nutrient Management
- Grazing/Nutrition
- State Soil Conservation Committee
- Grants
- Research Centers
- Forestry/NDFS
- Video/Publications
- Meetigs & Workshops
- Farm Business/Mgmt
- Plant/Crop/Seed/Forage Testing

---

**Where would we go with our questions?**

Losing these NDSU-Extension services would directly affect me by:

- Removing the source of information & assistance during a disaster.
- The Ag. Agent was critically important this last summer due to the drought.
- Informational meetings, water testing, support, meeting coordinator for the state etc. AND the drought continues. Time & distance is critical to get people to attend educational events.

---

THIS LETTER IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH NDSU-EX & WAS CREATED BY A PRIVATE PARTY.