

## NORTH DAKOTA DRY BEAN COUNCIL

November 2, 2023

Dr. William Nganje SBARE NDSU Dept. 7520 P.O. Box 6050 Fargo, ND 58108-6050

Re: North Dakota Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies.

Dear Dr. William Nganje and SBARE Board of Directors,

I want to thank the North Dakota State Board of Agricultural Research & Education (SBARE) for inviting the North Dakota Dry Bean Council to provide testimony regarding hiring three key job positions to support the North Dakota Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies.

The dry bean industry in North Dakota has recently formed a new policy organization called the Midwest Dry Bean Coalition. The representation includes processors and growers across the state. The industry realizes the importance of agriculture policy for growing and maintaining a healthy strong vibrant dry bean growth pattern in our state. From policy work for food aid to strong programming for our states farmers to value-added opportunities with our processors, we welcome SBARE monetizing the importance of positions to grow agriculture in the state.

The dry bean growers association, Northarvest Bean Growers Association currently works with the Midwest Council on Agriculture which has many of the North Dakota leading agriculture organizations working together with the need for a regional economics hub. I think we all would agree that the North Dakota Center for Agriculture Policy and Trade Studies could serve the needs of the Midwest with the hiring of these three key positions.

The North Dakota Dry Bean Council supports the addition of three positions: 1) Agricultural Policy Analyst, 2) Markets & Trade Analyst, 3) Economic Impact/Contribution Specialist at the North Dakota Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies.

Regards,

Karl Jodock

North Dakota Dry Bean Council

Chair