



STEVEN D. STREGE, Executive Vice President
CHERYL WELLE, Executive Assistant
SUE BENSON, Office Assistant
Ph: 701-235-4184, Fax: 701-235-1026
118 Broadway N Ste 606, Fargo, ND 58102
Website: www.ndgda.org

STU LETCHER, Safety & Health Director
Ph: 701-543-3110, Fax: 701-543-4183
P.O. Box 314, Hatton, ND 58240

HAL GRIEVE, Safety Specialist
Ph: 701-633-5256, Fax: 701-633-5258
204 4th Avenue S., Buffalo, ND 58011

January 23, 2009
One Page Broadcast Fax

To: North Dakota Elevator Managers and all Allied Members

The legislature has been in session since January 6. Over 950 legislative measures have been introduced. Your Association has been following many of these and participating on some of them.

HB 1169 exempts the landlord's share of a crop-share lease from attachment by a supplier's lien. Grain Dealers testified against this bill in the House Ag Committee on January 22. Testimony is posted at www.ndgda.org.

HB 1008 is the PSC budget that includes access to \$900,000 for filing a rail rate complaint. **HB 1009** is the North Dakota Ag Department budget bill. It includes funding for an additional person for phytosanitary work. Grain Dealers filed written testimony in support of both.

HB 1025 is a 73-page bill rewriting commodity checkoff group laws. This came out of an interim committee study for the purpose of updating language and reorganizing more logically. No substantive changes are made in this bill.

SB 2203 doubles the barley checkoff from one cent per bushel to two. **SB 2208** raises the sunflower checkoff from three cents per cwt to four and the flax checkoff from two cents per bushel to three. Both bills given a Do Pass from Senate Ag on Jan 22. **HB 1042** keeps the Wheat Commission checkoff at 1.5 cents. It was set to drop to 1.2 cents on July 1. The difference had been on for four years and retired the Canadian trade case debt. Hearing Jan 30 in House Ag. The Grain Dealers Association has traditionally not taken a position on how much these checkoffs should be.

HB 1417 provides immunity from civil liability for the seller of propane if there is an accident and the equipment in which the propane was used was modified or used for unintended purposes without the knowledge or consent of the dealer. Grain Dealers is supporting this. The hearing will be held in the House Industry Business and Labor Committee the morning of Wednesday January 28. The committee convenes at 8 a.m. and this is one of the bills they will be hearing that morning but no specific time given.

SB 2321 removes the June 30, 2009 sunset on the exemption from licensing entities that buy from licensed entities grain that has been "cleaned, processed and made ready for consumption". This was part of SB 2247 of the 2000 session and the exemption was granted for only two years. NDGDA has no problem with lifting the sunset.

On another matter some of you have asked about Dave Barrett's convention presentation regarding a Master Trade Agreement. We plan to have it posted on www.ndgda.org early next week.