

RESOLUTION #1
COMMODITY CHECKOFF CONSISTENCY

WHEREAS North Dakota grain elevators collect checkoffs on 13 different commodities and remit those to seven different commodity promotion agencies on a quarterly basis; and

WHEREAS consistency in procedures and requirements among the commodity checkoffs would ease the procedure and reduce errors, benefiting growers, commodity checkoff groups and grain elevators; and

WHEREAS legislation opening state statutes for all commodity groups is now being considered,

THEREFORE the North Dakota Grain Dealers Association calls on the North Dakota legislature and all commodity groups to be sure their new statutes are consistent as to

1. the reporting cycle after the end of a calendar quarter,
2. recordkeeping for commodity groups of three years rather than the requirement for permanent retention now in some statutes,
3. access to business records by commodity groups at reasonable times during normal business hours rather than simply “upon request”,
4. checkoff assessment on all that particular crop sold at a North Dakota elevator regardless of state of origin or residency of the seller, and
5. remittance to the North Dakota checkoff group only.