



January 5, 2026

SBARE Members
State Board of Agricultural Research and Education
North Dakota State University

Subject: Support for CAPTS Program in Policy, Markets, and Impact Analysis

Dear Members of the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education,

On behalf of USA Pulses, we want to express our support for the proposed Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies (CAPTS) initiative to strengthen decision-ready analysis for North Dakota agriculture. Our organization represents producers, processors, and industry partners across the pulse crop value chain, including dry peas, lentils, chickpeas, and beans. These crops are integral to North Dakota's agricultural economy and global trade footprint.

North Dakota pulse growers and processors operate in a highly dynamic environment where policy changes, transportation disruptions, and global market shifts can quickly impact farm profitability and export competitiveness. Timely, localized analysis is essential for informed decision-making. The CAPTS proposal addresses this need by providing:

- Rapid-response policy and market briefs to guide producers and industry stakeholders when conditions change.
- Enhanced trade and logistics monitoring, which is critical for pulses given their reliance on rail and port access.
- Economic impact studies and decision tools that help quantify the contribution of pulses and other crops to North Dakota's economy, valuable for advocacy and resource allocation.

Additional CAPTS mission would improve industry stakeholder outcomes by:

- Delivering faster, ND-specific insights on policy and market developments.
- Providing practical dashboards and modeling tools to support marketing and risk management decisions.
- Strengthening the evidence base for infrastructure investment and farm policy that protects and promotes the pulse industry.

This initiative also provides opportunities to strengthen collaboration between commodity groups, research institutions, and policy leaders. By expanding analytical capacity at CAPTS, SBARE will enable more informed decisions on transportation, trade, and farm policy that affect not only North Dakota but the entire U.S. pulse industry. These insights will help us collectively address challenges in global competitiveness, sustainability, and rural economic development.

USA Pulses is committed to advancing research, policy engagement, and market development for U.S. pulse crops. We believe this initiative aligns closely with those priorities and will deliver measurable value to producers and processors in North Dakota and beyond.

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Thank you for considering our input and for your continued leadership in supporting agriculture in the state.

Sincerely,

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