

Good morning Chairmen Thomas and members of the agriculture committee.

My name is Jennifer Holle and I am co-owner of Northern Lights Dairy which is a 5th generation dairy farm in Mandan, ND. I was lucky enough to marry into this industry. I always said I would marry a farmer, just didn't know the word "dairy" would be in front of that, and boy has it been an experience.

But this horse girl and Andrew met in college where he was studying dairy science and I was studying equine science. I have seen many changes in the industry, from number of farm dwindling, but that's not the reason I am here. The reason I am here is to talk about what I do on the farm. I do the Public Relations and marketing. We do weekly tours on the farm, we speak in schools, and also do the bi-annual Breakfast on the farm where this last summer we had over 3,500 guest on our farm learning where their dairy comes from. I am talking to the consumers, I hear their concern, I listen to what they want and I have seen a severe shift in how the dairy is perceived and almost weekly we received phone calls from the public asking to buy raw milk from us. Raw milk is here and we need to do this right, with the department of Agriculture, hand in hand, to offer dairy products to people that want it. We are a grade A facility at go through a lot of inspections and making sure our dairy stays in the standard that is Grade A, and we are very proud of it. But, if this need is growing so much, I would love to see where raw milk has their own license and standards set forth so that consumers know they have an awesome products.