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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
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March 31, 2026

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by Grand Farm to the Economic Development Administration's Disaster Supplemental funding opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.

Every day, our nation relies on the affordable and abundant food supply that our farmers and ranchers produce. Because of our agriculture producer's hard work, Americans spend less of their income on food than any other developed nation in the world. This is essential to our quality of life, the strength of our economy, and our security as a nation.

However, farming remains a weather-dependent industry. North Dakota's producers know this all too well, as severe and unpredictable winter weather has impeded their operations in recent years. These storms resulted in repeated Presidential Disaster Declarations, highlighting the extent of the damages and the need for solutions to improve resiliency.

To this end, Grand Farm is proposing to construct and equip facilities to develop, test, and validate severe-cold-capable autonomous agricultural technologies. Grand Farm is a national leader in the application of advanced technologies in agriculture—uniting small businesses, agricultural producers, researchers, and corporate partners to solve the most pressing challenges in food and farming. Grand Farm has leveraged its extensive partnerships to develop a plan that best meets the real needs of crop agriculture. With the Department of Commerce's support, Grand Farm will build out a facility with the capabilities and equipment needed for companies to validate and commercialize technologies that will address vulnerabilities within our local, regional, and national agriculture economy. Doing so will help producers and agri-businesses harden their operations against severe winter storms, improving the resiliency of our nation's food supply, while better protecting farmers and ranchers against future losses resulting from such disasters.

Accordingly, Grand Farm's proposal has my strong endorsement, and I hope this application receives the federal support it deserves. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please keep me informed of the review process, and feel free to contact my office with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,

John Hoeven
U.S. Senator