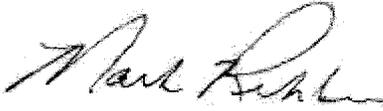


Exhibit No. 1Date 2-17-09Bill No. HJ8

February 17, 2009

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee.

The Richland County commissioners would like to ask for your support on HJ8. When we inquired about combining the research center with the County Extension offices we did not intend to cause funding problems for the research stations core project. Our intention was for the county to pay for the portion of the facility that our agents use. As well as covering the costs of operation and maintenance of that part of the facility. We were hoping that by our participation it would make it possible to build a building that could be more versatile in use and it seemed to us that combining research with extension would be a great fit in the world of agriculture, that our area and our state are so involved in and dependent upon.



Mark Rehbein
Richland County Commissioner, Chairman