

South Dakota Farm Bureau

2024 State Policy

1 **AGRICULTURE**

2

3 **We support:**

4

5 The need to explore improved methods of weather data
6 collection or the use of more than one means of data
7 collection. (Pennington/Jackson 2021)

8

9 The continued inclusion of “Concentrated Animal Feeding
10 Operations” CAFO, in the SD Codified law definition of
11 agriculture. (Turner 2016)

12

13 **AGRICULTURE CREDIT**

14

15 **We support:**

16

17 Putting more emphasis on helping young farmers and
18 ranchers to get started in agriculture with the aid of
19 guaranteed loans.

20

21 **AGRICULTURE EDUCATION & 22 RESEARCH**

23

24 **We support:**

25

26 Development of ag processing including livestock, grain
27 and other commodities.

28

29 Adequate funding for vocational agriculture programs and
30 encourage curricula that project farming and ranching as a
31 business, not just a way of life.

32

33 The Cooperative Extension program, 4-H and FFA.

34

35 Continued funding for the SD Ag Experiment Station.

36

37 Educational and workforce development programs targeted
38 towards a professional certificate and/or apprenticeship in
39 meat cutting from post-secondary institutions.
40 (Pennington/Jackson 2020)

41

42 Encouraging the S.D. Department of Labor to provide
43 opportunities from organizations such as Job Service and
44 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WOIA)
45 Program to provide scholarships and financial aid
46 assistance for students who are seeking meat processing
47 certificates and/or apprenticeships from post-secondary
48 institutions. (Pennington/Jackson 2020)

49 Funding for renovations of existing or construction of a
50 new meat laboratory at SDSU. (Pennington/Jackson 2020)

51

52 **We oppose:**

53

54 Creation of a value-added ag fund generated from a one-
55 cent sales tax.

56

57 **AGRICULTURE PROMOTION**

58

59 **We support:**

60

61 Further incentivizing meat packing capacity expansion
62 through grants to enhance meat harvesting and production
63 of cattle in South Dakota. (Beadle 2021)

64

65 The promotion and growth of the CIS Program. (Beadle
66 2021)

67

68 The concept of the S.D. Certified Beef Program.

69

70 State institutions refraining from purchasing imported meat
71 and to give preference to meat produced and processed in-
72 state if available.

73

74 The right of producers to promote increased research, sales
75 and consumption of the commodities they produce. State
76 and federal governments should not cease funding research
77 and promotion with the intent of allowing the farmer
78 checkoff-funded programs to cover such costs. We support
79 commodity checkoff programs as detailed in AFBF Policy
80 concerning the checkoff program.

81

82 **AG REGULATIONS - LIVESTOCK**

83

84 **We support:**

85

86 The CIS Program and prefer it over an interstate compact
87 program. (Beadle 2021)

88

89 Livestock production, expansion, and processing facilities
90 as important value-added ag industries.

91

92 Permitting alternative technology designs for the
93 management and/or control of feedlot runoff water that
94 does not provide actual storage capacities as set forth in the
95 general permit. Allowances for research permits should be
96 made when the “general permit” is reviewed as long as a
97 state university and federal agency such as NRCS are
98 parties to that research project. Parameters for a “research
99 permit” should be limited by allowances of the Clean
100 Water Act rather than the South Dakota “general permit.”

101

102 Allowing the establishment of livestock operations in
103 South Dakota if DANR regulations and local ordinances
104 are followed.

105 Criteria should include:

106

(1) Science based air and water quality standards

107

(2) Sound conservation practices

108

(3) Good stewardship.

109

110 Equal protection in matters of siting and/or expanding
111 livestock operations.

112

1 The concept of ag districts within county zoning
2 ordinances.
3
4 Local zoning laws that stipulate once livestock feeding
5 operations are established and operating within the law, a
6 property right has been established and that right is
7 transferable without further government action.
8
9 The actions, under ordinances of zoning boards—to be
10 administrative and should not be subject to referendum.
11
12 Changing the law to require a simple majority of the
13 zoning board to obtain a conditional use permit.
14
15 Expansion of procedures and practices that can be
16 performed by veterinary livestock assistants.
17
18 Procedures known and designated as castrating, spaying,
19 dehorning, and pregnancy testing of cattle, sheep or horses,
20 and swine, should not be considered the practice of
21 Veterinary medicine within the meaning of state law.
22
23 A producer’s right to administer vaccinations, wormers,
24 antibiotics, and other medications to the animals on his
25 farm, ranch, or kennel and should be protected.
26
27 If a farm or ranch on agricultural zoned land adds a USDA
28 or state-licensed and inspected kennel breeding operation,
29 that operation will be viewed as part of the agri-business of
30 the existing farm or ranch.
31
32 Continuance of the state inspection of meat locker facilities
33 and products.
34
35 Initiating a review and potential remedy of the current
36 county CAFO siting process, allowing individual counties
37 to opt out in accordance with proposed state law. (Turner
38 2015)
39
40 State legislation that would set minimum standards that
41 would require facilities up to 999 animal units (AU) be
42 defined as a permitted use, and that any facility that falls
43 below the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
44 (CAFO) threshold be defined by the Department of
45 Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) as a permitted
46 use and not as a conditional use. (Moody 2017)
47
48 A Farmstead/Homestead Exemption for small and medium
49 CAFOs from local zoning except municipal lot setbacks.
50 (Turner, Pennington/Jackson 2017)
51
52 Producer and/or producer led organizational efforts to
53 bring cattle producers, cattle feeders, and beef packers
54 together to develop a voluntary price discovery
55 methodology that is fair to all entities involved in
56 producing, feeding, marketing, harvesting, and retailing
57 beef products; and that if such voluntary efforts fail to
58 reach a compromise in a reasonable and timely manner,
59 SDFB will support efforts to modify or amend current
60 governmental rules and regulations to address the price
61 discovery problems now plaguing the beef industry.
62 (Moody 2020)
63

64 Cropland being under more than one DANR Nutrient
65 Management Plan. (Turner 2020)
66
67 Legislation that would encourage the development,
68 operation and sustainability of new and existing meat
69 processing plants. (Meade, Pennington/Jackson 2020)
70
71 Allowing state inspected meat to be sold across state lines.
72 (Pennington/Jackson 2020)
73
74 Livestock vaccine regulation based on sound science and
75 in consultation with a veterinarian’s recommendation.
76 (Hughes/Sully/Stanley 2023)
77
AG REGULATION
78
We support:
80
81
82 The early release of CRP and WRP lands for emergency
83 haying and grazing. (Moody 2021)
84
85 Continuing the effective permitting, regulating and
86 monitoring of the breeding and raising of elk, deer and
87 other cervids under the S.D. Animal Industry Board and
88 the State Veterinarian.
89
90 Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources having
91 jurisdiction over introduced wild animals or plants for
92 release in South Dakota.
93
94 S.D. apiary regulations should be amended to provide that
95 landowners may allow or employ any apiary to site bees on
96 their property.
97
98 State and local farm organizations having input in the
99 handling and use guidelines of hazardous ag chemicals.
100
101 Mandatory state inspection for protein and moisture testers
102 used by licensed grain handlers.
103
104 All commercial scales used in the weighing of livestock,
105 grain and feed be equipped and operated only with an
106 electronic or mechanical weight ticket stamp.
107
108 The choice to plant GMO seed.
109
110 Any setbacks for organic farming be the sole responsibility
111 of the organic farmer. (Douglas 2020)
112
113 State legislation that adequately indemnifies farmers and
114 ranchers who passively receive per and polyfluoroalkyl
115 substances (PFAS) onto their property. (Minnehaha 2023)
116
We oppose:
117
118
119 Any additional taxes and regulations on non-restricted ag
120 chemicals.
121
122 Any additional taxes to pay for cleanup of chemical spills.
123
124 Cities, municipalities or townships enacting stricter
125 regulations than current state or federal regulations in
126 regard to the use, storage or disposal of ag chemicals.

1
2 Additional regulations on farm fuel storage tanks
3 State operation of OSHA plans under federal guidelines
4 that result in routine enforcement inspections for small
5 farm employers.

6
7 Municipal initiatives and referendums that would hinder
8 the creation, expansion, and operation of value-added
9 agricultural projects that meet the necessary zoning,
10 permitting, and other state and national regulations.
11 (Davison/Hanson 2022)

12
13 Legislation in South Dakota that would create a farmer-
14 funded grain indemnity program (Hughes/Sully/Stanley
15 2023)

16 17 **ANIMAL CARE**

18 19 **We support:**

20
21 Industry established standards for the management, care
22 and treatment of animals in agriculture, commerce and in
23 medical research. Suspected violations of those standards
24 should be investigated by appropriate legal authorities.

25
26 Due process before any private property or animals
27 (animals includes but are not limited to livestock, horses,
28 dogs from USDA regulated commercial kennels, and
29 poultry) can be confiscated or disposed of by any
30 governmental entity, the humane society or similar groups.

31
32 Violations of or illegal actions against livestock facilities
33 or research labs should be classified a felony.

34
35 That before a warrant to enter an animal facility is issued,
36 three notarized complaints must be filed with the proper
37 authorities.

38
39 A waiting warning period be given the owner/operator to
40 correct any problems prior to law enforcement action.

41
42 Only animals in a life-threatening situation, as diagnosed
43 by a South Dakota state licensed veterinarian, should be
44 taken immediately and treated appropriately.

45
46 Legislation that provides adequate legal protection for
47 scientists engaged in medical or animal research.

48 49 **We oppose:**

50
51 The use of animal rights curriculum in schools. We
52 encourage Farm Bureau members to emphasize the proper
53 care farmers, ranchers, and regulated commercial kennels,
54 presently give farm animals.

55 56 **EDUCATION**

57 58 **We support:**

59
60 Adequate funding for sparsity factor legislation.
61

62 Control of our schools remains with the local elected board
63 of education.

64
65 Strong reading and phonics programs along with a testing
66 program at the end of each year as a requirement to
67 advance.

68
69 The concept of open enrollment.

70
71 The option of home schooling. The state aid to education
72 formula should allow for the cost of home school students
73 to participate in extra-curricular activities.

74
75 Teaching civics and citizenship in schools.

76
77 The teaching of local tax structure and local budgets.

78
79 Retaining the right to say the Pledge of Allegiance in all
80 schools and at all school functions.

81
82 Voluntary prayer in schools, and favor allowing public and
83 private schools to post the Ten Commandments.

84
85 Consolidation of school administration, faculty and
86 electronic equipment when feasible.

87
88 The starting date of school districts staying with local
89 decision of the school boards.

90
91 Membership of the Board of Regents should include at
92 least two members from agriculture-related businesses. At
93 least one of these should be involved in production
94 agriculture.

95
96 Tuition reciprocity programs between neighboring states at
97 vocational schools, colleges and universities.

98
99 Student loan programs and strongly recommend
100 enforcement of the repayment of such loans.

101
102 Finding and/or developing GMO educational materials and
103 making such materials available to school age children.
104 (Minnehaha 2015)

105 106 **ELECTIONS**

107 108 **We support:**

109
110 The opportunity to recall county commissioners, by
111 petition of voters, similar to the present recall law for
112 mayor and/or city commissioner.

113
114 Citizen's rights of Referendum and Initiated Measures.

115
116 Only S.D. registered voters should be eligible to circulate
117 petitions for ballot measures.

118
119 Retention of the Electoral College for presidential
120 elections. Electors should be required to vote for the
121 candidates on the ballots to which they were pledged.

122
123 Legislative districts consist of one senator and two
124 representatives.

1
2 The Public Utilities Commission should be kept an elected
3 body.

4
5 Combining elections whenever possible.

6
7 An increase in the required number of petition signatures
8 for initiated measures, constitutional amendments, and law
9 referrals. (Perkins 2016)

10
11 Changing South Dakota law to require more
12 geographically diverse signatures from South Dakota
13 voters before an issue can be brought to the ballot.
14 (Clark/Day/Perkins 2016)

15
16 Reasonable and fair individual county commission districts
17 based upon population. (Clay/Union 2022)

18
19 Keeping the single-subject rule for constitutional
20 amendments. (Meade/Douglas/Moody 2023)

21
22 **We oppose:**

23
24 Term limits for state legislators.

25
26 Proposals to make the popular vote the sole determinant of
27 presidential elections.

28
29 The election of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural
30 Resources. (Walworth/Edmunds 2023)

31
32 **ENERGY**

33
34 **We support:**

35
36 Construction of pipeline projects in South Dakota, that are
37 beneficial to our local and federal economies.

38
39 Building oil refineries in South Dakota.

40
41 The development of renewable energies and by-products.

42
43 The use of a renewable energy standard to be applied to the
44 growth in energy consumption.

45
46 Research into the feasibility of alternative energy
47 production in South Dakota.

48
49 Research to find better methods to transmit and store
50 electricity produced by wind energy.

51
52 Increased ethanol blender fuel pumps in the state.

53
54 The production and use of ethanol fuels.

55
56 The state incentive for ethanol production.

57
58 Production and use of soy diesel and other bio-fuels.

59
60 All forms of energy, including coal. (Clay/Union 2015)

61

62 Educating people that CO2 is not a pollutant. (Clay/Union
63 2015)

64
65 South Dakota maintaining a diverse and reliable electrical
66 energy generation portfolio to ensure energy stability and
67 resiliency at an affordable cost. (Walworth/Edmunds 2023)

68
69 Counties adopting a comprehensive plan that sets
70 guidelines as to where energy generation can take place
71 within the county. (Walworth/Edmunds 2023)

72
73 **ENVIRONMENT**

74
75 **We support:**

76
77 Strict enforcement of all S.D. litter laws.

78
79 All soft drinks and alcoholic beverages sold in South
80 Dakota should be in containers with a deposit paid thereon.

81
82 Governmental entities and agriculture being treated with
83 the same criteria for non-point source water protection.

84
85 The concept of trading pollution credits between farmers in
86 an effort to limit overall non-point source pollution in a
87 given watershed.

88
89 Before adverse actions can be taken against farmers the
90 Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources must
91 show proof that contamination is occurring.

92
93 The DANR informing the operator of the nature of the
94 complaint and the full report of their investigation.
95 (Brookings 2019)

96
97 **We oppose:**

98
99 Holding farmers legally or financially responsible for trace
100 amounts of ag chemicals found in a water source,
101 providing manufacturer's directions and instructions have
102 been followed.

103
104 Holding present owners accountable for past violations of
105 water protection or other environmental laws by former
106 owners of that land.

107
108 **FAMILY**

109
110 **We support:**

111
112 The legal definition of marriage as a union of one male and
113 one female.

114
115 Neither the United States nor any state should deprive any
116 human being of life or equal protection of the law on
117 account of illness, age, or incapacity.

118
119 Life begins at the moment of conception. Congress and the
120 State Legislature should establish these principals with
121 appropriate legislation.

122

1 **GAME, FISH & PARKS**

2
3 **We support:**

4
5 SD Game, Fish & Parks along with the SD Department of
6 Environment & Natural Resources, be responsible for
7 posting uniform signage for fences that farmers are
8 required to register on navigable streams.

9
10 A surcharge on all hunting and fishing fees to be used for
11 county and township roads.

12
13 Government agencies responsible for the management of
14 wildlife be held to the same standards as the private sector
15 with regard to brucellosis.

16
17 State funding to compensate landowners who suffer lost
18 income due to prairie dog migration and infestation from
19 public land to private land.

20
21 The continued monitoring and compliance of the SD
22 Prairie Dog Management Plan.

23
24 Returning the prairie dog to the S.D. pest list and ask state
25 and federal agencies to immediately stop all activities and
26 efforts to list the prairie dog as endangered.

27
28 The same season for resident and non-resident pheasant
29 hunters.

30
31 Reforming aerial hunting regulations to make them more
32 landowner and agriculture friendly.

33
34 Clarifying the authority of conservation officers.

35
36 Halting land acquisition by the Game, Fish & Parks and
37 encourage more walk-in hunting funding and designations.

38
39 The SD Game, Fish & Parks to act more landowner-
40 friendly by:

- 41 A) consulting with landowners regarding game
42 problems,
- 43 B) consulting with landowners regarding hunting
44 access,
- 45 C) providing transferable licenses, coupons for
46 landowners, etc.
- 47 D) adequately funding depredation programs.

48
49 Game, Fish & Parks establish hunting seasons that reflect
50 the number of wildlife and the depredation problems that
51 wildlife cause.

52
53 Increasing the number of non-resident waterfowl license
54 sales.

55
56 Compensation to farmers and ranchers for game
57 depredation.

58
59 Issuing transferable depredation tags to producers based on
60 damage.

61
62 Shortening the action on a depredation complaint time to 8
63 hours.

64
65 A lesser percentage increase on license fees for residents
66 than non-residents. Predator license fees should remain
67 unchanged.

68
69 Predator control.

70
71 Returning a percentage of GF&P's income to counties for
72 predator control.

73
74 Extreme caution in the state becoming involved in a
75 comprehensive wildlife management plan that includes
76 federal mandates, diminishes property rights or impacts
77 local economies.

78
79 The use of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and aircraft by
80 coyote hunters engaged in livestock protection.

81
82 Any person carrying a legal hunting license be allowed to
83 shoot wildlife for another member of the hunting party
84 with a valid hunting license.

85
86 The right of S.D. resident landowners/operators to transfer
87 big game licenses to other hunters, giving preference to
88 veterans.

89
90 Game, Fish & Parks and School and Public Lands
91 controlling noxious weeds and pests on their property.

92
93 Game, Fish & Parks shall properly and timely dispose of
94 big game from roadways and ditches.

95
96 Immediate steps to reduce the mountain lion population to
97 the extent that they will not continue to be crowded into
98 areas of human habitation.

99
100 GF&P funds which are scheduled for land acquisition be
101 used for animal damage control.

102
103 Flooded private land should be allowed in the South
104 Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Walk-In Areas program and
105 compensated similarly to land that is allowed public
106 hunting access through that program. (Clark/Day 2015)

107
108 **We oppose:**

109
110 Additional acquisition of land by GF&P except for small
111 narrow tracts that provide access to any existing GF&P
112 property. Before any property is acquired by GF&P, the
113 commission should hold public hearings in the vicinity of
114 the proposed acquisition. Leasing of land for wildlife
115 production and hunting, as well as refuges, is preferred
116 over government ownership.

117
118 Road hunting.

119
120 Extending the pheasant hunting season beyond December
121 1.

122
123 **GOVERNMENT**

124
125 **We support:**

1 Residents living in extra-territorial areas should be allowed
2 to vote in city elections so that they have representation.
3
4 Township and other local levels of government.
5
6 Consideration of local government consolidation must be
7 decided by a vote of the people of each government entity
8 involved.
9
10 Policies and procedures to allow local, community and
11 private firefighting units the authority to extinguish forest
12 and prairie fires in instances when they are the first
13 responder.
14
15 Reallocating a portion of the contractors excise tax from
16 agricultural development construction back to local
17 government for related infrastructure maintenance and
18 repair.
19
20 Allowing South Dakota residents to purchase fireworks all
21 year long, and making fireworks legal to use whenever it is
22 safe.
23
24 The merging of the SD Department of Agriculture and the
25 SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources
26 into the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
27 with the expectation of a continued focus on production
28 agriculture, responsible livestock development and quality
29 customer service to South Dakota's agricultural producers.
30 (Pennington/Jackson, Moody 2020)
31
32 **GUN OWNERS RIGHTS**
33
34 **We support:**
35
36 Reciprocity between states involving firearm permits.
37
38 **We oppose:**
39
40 Legislation to require registration or licenses for firearms.
41
42 **HEALTH CARE**
43
44 **We support:**
45
46 Health care legislation that encourages accountability and
47 cost savings by the consumer.
48
49 People be able to choose their own health protection
50 including high deductible insurance policies and medical
51 savings accounts (MSA's).
52
53 Expanding existing state programs for in-home care for the
54 elderly and disabled to allow these people to remain in
55 their homes and reduce costs.
56
57 More restraint and supervision by the Medical community
58 concerning opioid prescriptions. (Davison/Hanson 2017)
59
60 Continued use of pharmacy benefit managers and opposes
61 legislation that would mandate the price pharmacy benefit
62 managers must pay to pharmacies, further increasing the

63 cost of generic drug prices for South Dakotans. (Moody
64 2022)
65
66 **We oppose:**
67
68 Legalizing marijuana for any purpose.
69
70 Health care benefits discrimination against individuals
71 participating in work or leisure activities involving ATV's,
72 snowmobiles, motorcycles or horseback riding.
73
74 Federal government subsidy and involvement in health
75 care, and we recognize that any government financed
76 health program is in fact, socialized medicine.
77
78 **HIGHWAY REGULATIONS**
79
80 **We support:**
81
82 Construction, maintenance, cleaning, repair and legal
83 liability of auto gates remain with the government entity
84 responsible for the road.
85
86 Eliminating S.D. DOT regulations which restricts mowing
87 of state highway rights-of-way before a certain date to
88 improve highway safety, weed control, and hay quality.
89
90 The opportunity for adjoining landowners to hay the
91 median on interstate highways.
92
93 The license plate number and one other descriptive item be
94 the only information required for prosecution of the
95 violation of passing a school bus with a flashing red light.
96
97 Implementation of the living snow fence program to work
98 in conjunction with the continuous CRP program.
99
100 The current process and restrictions for obtaining a driving
101 permit at age 14, which includes the passage of a driving
102 test and/or Drivers Ed and 3-6 months probationary
103 periods. (2018)
104
105 Revenue collection efforts on those users who do not
106 currently contribute to the South Dakota Highway Fund
107 due to electric vehicles and/or alternative fuels. (Charles
108 Mix/Douglas 2020)
109
110 The creation of a Small Business Restricted Commercial
111 Driver's License. (Pennington/Jackson 2022)
112
113 **We oppose:**
114
115 S.D. Department of Transportation inspections on non-
116 commercial pickups, trucks and trailers under 26,000 lb
117 GVW even if their combined GVW weights are over
118 26,000 lbs.
119
120 Authority for S.D. DOT to enforce fines for exceeding load
121 limits by checking elevator weight tickets.
122

1 Fishing or any other recreational activities be allowed from
2 a bridge without a designated walkway or shoulder on any
3 county or state highway. (Hutchinson 2015)

4 5 **INSURANCE**

6 7 **We support:**

8
9 Having insured motorists not be legally responsible for
10 damage to an uninsured's motorized vehicle caused by an
11 insured motor vehicle. (Charles Mix 2021)

12
13 S.D. law of subrogation involving settlements between
14 insurance companies and oppose using the "make whole"
15 doctrine.

16
17 Proof of liability insurance be required when purchasing
18 vehicle licenses.

19
20 Increased fines for failure to carry proper liability
21 insurance.

22
23 Raising minimum automobile liability coverage to
24 100/300/50.

25
26 Insurance companies be required to notify the insured party
27 of any liability claim paid on their behalf.

28
29 A person who lends a vehicle or machine to another
30 individual without compensation should not be held liable
31 for damages caused by the vehicle or machine due to the
32 negligence of the borrower.

33
34 Changing the workers compensation law to simplify the
35 admissions process and allow up to 72 hours for
36 authorization in cases of emergency.

37
38 Requiring law enforcement officers responding to an
39 accident, to write an "accident" report for accidents
40 occurring on private property. The report shall be written
41 on a non-reportable accident form (not reportable to the
42 state) and be retained by the responding department.
43 (Haakon 2015)

44 45 **JUDICIAL/LAW ENFORCEMENT**

46 47 **We support:**

48
49 Only accepting US Constitutional Law and not accepting
50 legal arguments that cite international law, World Court, or
51 Sheria Law.

52
53 Limitations on lawsuits, both on what may constitute a
54 lawsuit and on monetary awards that can be sought.

55
56 Plaintiffs and their attorneys be liable for the defendant's
57 legal fees if a jury finds a lawsuit without grounds or if the
58 prosecuting lawyer handles the case on a contingency fee
59 basis.

60

61 Medical malpractice be limited to \$250,000 for non-
62 economic awards. Lawyer contingency fees should also be
63 limited.

64
65 In order for a civil court suit to be settled out of court, it
66 must be done before a jury is called. Once the jury is called
67 and an expense to the county is created, the decision should
68 be in the hands of the court. Should an out of court
69 settlement be made after a jury is called and before that
70 jury has reached a verdict, the plaintiff should pay for the
71 cost of the court.

72
73 Strict enforcement of criminal laws, especially DUI and
74 controlled substance laws.

75
76 Keeping the death penalty for certain violent crimes.
77 Individuals who distribute misinformation concerning
78 detrimental effects of agricultural products should be held
79 responsible for their actions.

80
81 The Right to Privacy Law be rescinded for prison inmates.

82
83 Victims and their families be notified before parole or
84 release of the criminal from a correctional facility.

85
86 Protection of innocent victims by authorities requiring
87 adequate bond payments and suspects being held the
88 proper length of time before being released on bail.

89
90 Enforcement of age requirements for admission to theaters
91 and renting of videos based on the movie rating system.

92
93 Prohibition on the sale and distribution of hard-core
94 pornography.

95
96 Inmates doing constructive work in the community.

97
98 Any fines and/or reprimands handed down from the State
99 Bar of the South Dakota Disciplinary Board should be
100 made public. (Potter 2020)

101
102 All education and work programs in the prison and will
103 support expanding programs to more facilities if the
104 opportunity arises. (Douglas 2022)

105
106 The concept of the state incentivizing county
107 consolidation/regionalization of both boundaries and
108 services as well as the state absorbing a share of the
109 counties' expenses for unfunded and underfunded legal
110 services mandates without raising property taxes.
111 (Walworth/Edmunds/Beadle 2023)

112 113 **We oppose:**

114
115 Any attempt by the state to put unnecessary restraints on
116 churches and clergy inside the prison systems.

117 118 **LABOR**

119 120 **We support:**

121

1 SDFB working with the Legislature, the administration and
2 state agencies to enact programs that will assist farmers in
3 having an adequate legal work force.

4
5 Employers who knowingly hire illegal workers be fined.

6
7 Employers who follow the law and then later find out a
8 worker is “illegal” should be held harmless.

9
10 Retaining the Right to Work section of the State
11 Constitution.

12
13 Treating unaccompanied minors who enter the United
14 States illegally under the same laws as adults who enter the
15 country illegally.

16
17 **We oppose:**

18
19 Mandatory workers compensation for farm employees.

20
21 Teacher continuing contract clauses.

22
23 **LAND OWNERSHIP**

24
25 **We support:**

26 Action to return to the State of South Dakota all federal
27 land within the state’s boundaries.

28
29 Any proposed sale or transfer of land to an entity of state
30 or federal government must be given public notice for three
31 consecutive weeks with a three-month waiting period
32 before condemnation, sale, or transfer occurs. The person
33 renting the land must be notified in writing at least two
34 months before a deal is closed.

35
36 If the state government acquires property from the private
37 sector, it should be required to release like amount into the
38 private sector, either by sale or termination of easements.

39 Leaving the adverse possession South Dakota law in its
40 present form. (Beadle, Davison/Hanson, Charles Mix,
41 Douglas 2017)

42
43 **We oppose:**

44
45 Trades involving state lands that would place such state
46 lands into Federal Government ownership or control.

47
48 The purchase of private land by state or federal agencies
49 with the intent of bartering with ranchers who lease
50 government owned grazing lands.

51
52 The purchase and/or ownership of agriculture farm ground
53 that is owned by majority stockholders from foreign
54 countries or entities. (Pennington/Jackson 2022)

55
56 **LAND USE**

57
58 **We support:**

59
60 Counties forming Public Land Use Resource Committees
61 to maximize local input into policy making and lawmaking
62 involving state and federal land in their county.

63
64 Continued research at SDSU in the monitoring of overland
65 and subsurface flows for water quality and sediment
66 reduction.

67
68 Efforts to reduce excess water levels so farms can once
69 again operate, maintaining essential community services
70 and reducing annual cost of road repairs.

71
72 A system under which environmental regulatory authority
73 would lie with the state, while control of ag zoning would
74 stay with the counties.

75
76 The right to buy back conservation easements at change of
77 ownership or a renegotiation of the easement every 30
78 years.

79
80 Initiatives that allow replacing or exchanging agriculture
81 land where restrictions of use have been placed by
82 easements, rules and policies of USDA or other Federal
83 government agencies. (Moody/Brown/Davison-Hanson
84 2016)

85
86 That an exemption be allowed to producers of all buffer
87 strips to expand the time of cutting hay with no time
88 restrictions. (Turner 2018)

89
90 **We oppose:**

91
92 The state imposing any wetland regulations more stringent
93 than federal wetland regulations.

94
95 The creation of mandatory buffer zones along waterways,
96 wetlands and wildlife production areas in the state.

97
98 Public access on flooded private land without landowner or
99 operator permission. This does not apply to meandered
100 lakes that have been surveyed and currently have public
101 access.

102
103 **LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION &
104 THEFT PROTECTION**

105
106 **We support:**

107
108 The brand inspection program in West River South Dakota
109 and support administration by the S.D. brand board.

110
111 All brand inspection fees be used solely for and by the S.D.
112 brand board for the brand inspection program.

113
114 Livestock owner’s ability to obtain a shipper’s permit for
115 taking livestock out of the ownership inspection area as
116 they are transporting to a ranch or private individual
117 outside the brand inspection area. The livestock will be
118 inspected at the closest approved in-state open market at
119 the time of the move.

120
121 Strengthening the SD Animal Industry Board's ability to
122 deal with animal disease outbreaks and food safety issues.

1 Efforts to legalize freeze brands for ownership
2 identification. (Pennington/Jackson 2023).
3
4 An increase in the brand inspection fee cap.
5 (Pennington/Jackson 2023)
6
7 A repeal of the horse brand inspection.
8 (Pennington/Jackson 2023)

9
10 **We oppose:**

11
12 Mandatory EID and RFID tags at the state and national
13 level. (Douglas 2021)
14
15 The election of the State Brand Board.
16 (Pennington/Jackson 2023)

17
18 **MINERAL RIGHTS**

19
20 **We support:**

21
22 When mineral rights are separated from the surface rights,
23 these mineral rights should be taxed. The tax should be
24 subtracted from the landowner’s property tax. If the
25 mineral taxes are not paid for three years, the mineral
26 rights would be offered to the landowner for payment of
27 back taxes, thereby clearing title to the mineral rights.

28
29 Legislation to protect surface owners in cases involving
30 mineral rights disputes.

31
32 Statutory protection of the surface owners’ rights in the
33 event that there is mineral activity that affects surface
34 owners’ rights. South Dakota must require that the mineral
35 producer negotiate a surface use agreement with the
36 surface owner prior to any mineral activities commencing
37 on the property.

38
39 **NATURAL RESOURCES**

40
41 **We support:**

42
43 Changes in wetland mapping conventions and minimal
44 effects that make S.D. more consistent with the original
45 intent of Swampbuster and neighboring states.

46
47 Landowner requested reviews of their certified wetland
48 determinations anytime NRCS guidelines change.

49
50 Multiple use of public lands by the public, including but
51 not limited to proper resource management, agriculture
52 production and recreation.

53
54 Delisting the Topeka Shiner from the ESA list.

55
56 Active timbering of our national forests.

57
58 NRCS appeals should be performed by a person of
59 seniority other than the original employee who made the
60 determination.

61

62 NRCS wetland appeals should include the technical results
63 as well as the procedural process.

64
65 Legislation to prohibit the introduction of any endangered
66 species into South Dakota.

67
68 **We oppose:**

69
70 The “no net loss” policy for wetlands.

71
72 Any expansion of present wilderness areas or the
73 establishment of any new wilderness areas in the State of
74 South Dakota, and specifically opposes creation of
75 wilderness on any federal land.

76
77 **PROPERTY RIGHTS**

78
79 **We support:**

80
81 The passage of private property rights legislation which
82 directs the Attorney General to do an assessment of the
83 impacts of rules, regulations and/or laws and which
84 provides compensation for “takings.”

85
86 Registering drainage projects at the county register of
87 deeds for adequate tracking purposes, and should be done
88 only at the discretion of the landowner.

89
90 The current state fencing laws. (Moody/Charles
91 Mix/Perkins/Douglas 2016)

92
93 The use of improved rights-of-way for the movement
94 and/or transportation of people and any and all legal
95 commodities. (Minnehaha/Moody 2018)

96
97 The Public Utilities Commission’s statutory standards and
98 processes set for the development of carbon infrastructure,
99 including pipelines. (Spink/Faulk 2023).

100
101 The ability by a company who can utilize eminent domain
102 prior to being granted a permit by the Public Utilities
103 Commission to survey; however, the surveying process
104 should include increasing applicant/landowner
105 communication, clarifying landowner compensation,
106 specifying when and where a survey may be conducted,
107 and the amount of time the survey will require. (SDFB
108 Board of Directors 2023)

109
110 Value-added opportunities that increase demand for South
111 Dakota agricultural commodities by establishing and/or
112 increasing market access provided it is science-based,
113 meets safety standards, protects landowner rights, and
114 meets all regulatory requirements. (SDFB Board of
115 Directors 2023)

116
117 **We oppose:**

118
119 The condemnation/eminent domain of land for any purpose
120 other than highways and such public utilities that benefit
121 the majority of the public. Eminent domain should not be
122 abused for public recreational facilities or private economic
123 development.

124

1 Limiting the ability of private landowners to generate
2 revenue off their land, including lands inundated by water,
3 without the landowner's permission. (Brown 2017)

4
5 The use of eminent domain to acquire property until at
6 least 67 percent of the landowners agree to the terms of the
7 project's buy out; at that time eminent domain can be used
8 by the rules it is governed. (Spink/Faulk 2023)

9
10 Statewide setbacks for carbon dioxide infrastructure.
11 (SDFB Board of Directors 2023).

12 **RAILROADS**

13 **We support:**

14
15
16
17 Railroad upgrade projects with a commitment of service to
18 agriculture.

19
20 S.D. law be changed to limit time to 10 minutes for a train-
21 blocked crossing, except for emergency vehicles, which
22 must have access as soon as possible.

23
24 Reverting abandoned railroad beds and rights-of-way back
25 to adjacent landowners.

26
27 When abandoned railroad beds go to public use, the
28 adjacent landowners should be exempt from all liability
29 incurred by the public use of former railroad property.

30
31 Railroad companies in the State of South Dakota shall
32 abide by South Dakota fencing laws. (Haakon 2017)

33 **We oppose:**

34
35
36 The State of South Dakota entering into any perpetual
37 easements concerning abandoned railroad rights-of-way.

38 **RELIGIOUS LIFE**

39 **We support:**

40
41
42
43 The necessary steps to reestablish the right to offer
44 voluntary prayers in public schools and should be
45 supported at both state and national levels.

46 **We oppose:**

47
48
49 Actions preventing free distribution of copies of the Bible.

50 **STATE GOVERNMENT**

51 **We support:**

52
53
54
55 The amount required to trigger the vehicle damage
56 disclosure on a vehicle title be raised to \$10,000.

57
58 The South Dakota vehicle title damage disclosure be
59 amended to disclose if the damage was cosmetic only, such
60 as hail or minor collision that does not affect the
61 performance or the safety of the vehicle.

62

63 An across the board spending freeze on state government,
64 with adjustments for inflation.

65
66 The philosophy of privatization in county and state
67 government.

68
69 State government funding for any state-mandated changes
70 of local government.

71
72 State agencies reevaluating all travel and vehicle
73 requirements and enforce existing policies regarding
74 personal use of state-owned vehicles.

75 Surplus monies above the reserve designated by the
76 legislature should be automatically returned to county
77 governments using the current distribution formula for
78 property tax relief.

79
80 A requirement that all boards at the state and federal level
81 which regulate agricultural policy contain at least 51
82 percent membership that is involved in agriculture
83 production or the agricultural industry.

84
85 Existing laws governing special taxation districts be
86 changed to allow a one-fourth or larger part of a district to
87 petition out, if a number equal to 10% of the people who
88 voted in the last governor's race sign the petition. The
89 county commissioners would set up the election instead of
90 the special taxation district which would stop any
91 discrimination in a small area. A simple majority of voters
92 from that portion wishing to petition out would free that
93 portion of the district.

94
95 State government providing funding and other support for
96 the benefit of the S.D. State Fair.

97
98 Repeal of video lottery.

99
100 An increase of at least an additional 5% of the video lottery
101 revenues for the state and an additional 10% of the gross
102 revenue from video casinos be returned to the state. The
103 state portion should not be used for promotion of
104 gambling.

105
106 Using a portion of the tax on alcoholic beverages and
107 revenues from gambling to finance the rehabilitation of
108 alcoholics and addicted gamblers, and address other
109 problems directly attributed to alcohol and gambling.

110
111 Allowing volunteer ambulance services to operate in
112 communities of fewer than 3,500.

113
114 Bonding requirements for auctioneers and clerks be
115 adequate to protect the seller.

116
117 A single tax rate for auction sales to eliminate confusion in
118 the clerking process.

119
120 A small structure and large culvert fund that would be
121 distributed to each county for their townships, on a yearly
122 basis. This would be for all counties, even if they only
123 have unorganized townships. (Davison/Hanson 2020)

124
125 **We oppose:**

1
2 State ownership or operation of ag processing plants for
3 any reasons other than research or market development.

4
5 **TAXATION-FUEL**

6
7 **We support:**

8
9 Removing the use of gas tax funds for boat ramps, park
10 roads, snowmobile trails, etc. Park and user fees should be
11 used to fund these items.

12
13 Continuing the per-gallon road use fuel tax rather than
14 other forms of taxation to finance state highway
15 maintenance and construction.

16
17 **We oppose:**

18
19 Adding a tax on dyed diesel fuel.

20
21 **TAXATION-GENERAL**

22
23 **We support:**

24
25 A concept of tax limitation.

26
27 All tobacco products be taxed at the same rate.

28
29 All telecommunications companies doing business in
30 South Dakota be taxed.

31
32 Repeal of the contractors excise tax.

33
34 **We oppose:**

35
36 A South Dakota income tax.

37
38 Placing a tax on tile and/or surface drainage for any use
39 except to operate a drainage district.

40
41 A personal property tax.

42
43 **TAXATION-REAL PROPERTY**

44
45 **We support:**

46
47 The assessed valuation of ag land that reflects the land's
48 ability to produce under natural conditions and should be
49 adjusted on an annual basis.

50
51 Requiring actual use for property tax valuation.

52
53 A majority approval of the county commission to remove
54 land from the tax rolls. Notification must also be given to
55 the township chairman in any affected township. Land to
56 be purchased, sold or transferred should be publicly
57 advertised and a bid process enacted.

58 The interpretation of real property as land and permanent
59 structures only.

60
61 Legislation that will allow counties to equalize tax
62 assessments and use the adjustment factors in statute to

63 measure productivity in addition to the soil survey to
64 calculate assessments. The practice of "neighborhooding"
65 in specific geographic areas within a county should be
66 substantially weighted and at least equal in influence with
67 the soil survey.

68
69 Increasing the \$10,000 homestead exemption to \$50,000
70 for ag structures.

71
72 Taxation of Public lands as if that land were owned
73 privately. The U.S. Government should pay the tax with no
74 fee increase to the public land user.

75
76 Church property that generates income should not receive
77 preferential tax treatment.

78
79 Municipalities that own income producing real property
80 should be required to make property tax payments.

81
82 Property owners who have been wrongfully assessed taxes
83 should receive compensation from their county, including
84 all expenses incurred through the appeal process.

85
86 Township boards be given more time to have the tax
87 assessments records in order to make their
88 recommendations on valuations to the county assessor.

89
90 A return to the law that assessors be reappointed every five
91 years.

92
93 **We oppose:**

94
95 Any real estate tax reduction on land under easement.

96
97 Any attempt to raise the tax rate per \$1000 of value on ag
98 land to equal that on non-ag land for school purposes.

99
100 **TAXATION-SALES**

101
102 **We support:**

103
104 Purchased inputs for agricultural production,
105 manufacturing and industrial production shall be exempt
106 from state and local sales tax. Sales tax should only be
107 collected on the final product at the time of
108 sale/consumption.

109
110 Legislation that would tax advertising.

111
112 The 2027 sunset on the state sales tax cuts. (Charles Mix
113 2023)

114
115 **We oppose:**

116
117 Sales tax on feed, seed, fertilizer, and ag chemicals. Sales
118 tax should be removed from veterinary supplies. City sales
119 tax should not be charged on machinery, repairs, building
120 materials and veterinary supplies used by farmers.

121
122 Cities or school districts having extra sales tax for the
123 support of schools.

124

1 Cities being allowed to put sales tax receipts in their
2 general fund for property tax relief.

3
4 The repeal of the state food sales tax. (Beadle 2022)

5
6 A county sales tax except for the purpose of financing a
7 county jail or for the incarceration costs of county inmates
8 in a regional jail. (Walworth 2022)

9 10 **TAXATION-WATER**

11 **We oppose:**

12
13
14 Any tax on water usage, including irrigation. If a water
15 usage tax is necessary, it should be applied to all water
16 users, including domestic, city, industrial and agriculture.

17 18 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

19 **We support:**

20
21
22 Communication back up power during power outages.
23 (2019)

24
25 The efforts of SD Rural Electrics to defend their right to
26 serve electric service territory granted them under state
27 law. (Pennington/Jackson, Charles Mix, Douglas, Turner
28 2019)

29 30 **TRESPASS LAWS**

31 **We support:**

32
33
34 Broadening the present trespass law under which all land is
35 off limits unless permission is granted by the landowner or
36 operator, to include private land in the Black Hills fire
37 protection district. We favor increased fines for violators.

38
39 The trespass and use policy for school and public lands
40 should release the lessee of all liability.

41 42 **WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

43 **We support:**

44
45
46 Equal treatment of wetland work by private contractors and
47 NRCS work and handle them on a timely basis.

48
49 The use of retention and draw down dams in drainage
50 areas, and favor a pilot program to allow retention and dam
51 areas to be put in continuous CRP.

52
53 Revising the S.D. Vested Drainage Rights law to include
54 new drainage and previously undiscovered drainage
55 systems.

56
57 Prior to filing legal action a qualified mediator or water
58 expert be brought in when disagreements about drainage
59 affecting individual parties cannot be resolved. Parties
60 should bear the cost of mediation.

61

62 The formation of smaller drainage districts primarily
63 composed of landowners, governed by landowners, as a
64 state statute already allows and to include SDSU
65 participation, county governments, US geological maps
66 and professional ag specialists as needed.

67
68 A credible data law to govern total maximum daily load
69 regulations.

70
71 State and federal legislation that will positively affect
72 domestic water development in our state.

73
74 Water projects be paid for by people who benefit from
75 those projects. Funding of water projects should be
76 determined in accordance with the direct benefit.

77
78 Legislation that the transfer of water rights for a change of
79 use be reviewed as a new application and given a new
80 priority date.

81
82 A landowner being allowed to drain back to a wetland high
83 water mark if it can exit into a natural drain way.

84
85 Directing the state of South Dakota to create an
86 engineering study of the eastern South Dakota water issue,
87 to help determine how much economic activity is lost due
88 to the high water, and to determine how to best manage the
89 water levels to put some of this land back into agricultural
90 production.

91
92 Using site specific radar generated rainfall data in
93 determining normal, wet and dry years in regards to
94 wetland determinations methods. (Brown 2016)

95 **We oppose:**

96
97
98 Any new taxes for water development.

99
100 New state legislation designed to manage surface water
101 until other issues are settled. (Moody 2016)

102 103 **WEED & PEST CONTROL**

104 **We support:**

105
106
107 Placing the mountain pine beetle on the South Dakota pest
108 list.

109
110 The use of all modern technology, including actively
111 timbering our forests, to help manage our forests for future
112 generations.

113
114 Action by the state to adopt state emergency powers on
115 federal lands in instances where the federal government
116 fails to act in the best interest of South Dakotans relating to
117 fire prevention or pest and disease prevention.

118
119 Strict enforcement of weed control laws with a goal of
120 eradicating primary noxious weeds, e.g. musk thistle,
121 Canada thistle and leafy spurge.

122
123 Streamlining the process for noxious weed control so the
124 time period from complaint to action can be shortened.

1 Weed control requirements on local, state and federal
2 government lands be equal to those required of private
3 landowners.

4 **WELFARE**

5 **We support:**

6
7
8 A mandatory random drug-testing program to be eligible to
9 receive welfare benefits.

10 **We oppose:**

11
12
13 Persons on strike being eligible to receive food stamps or
14 state unemployment benefits.

15
16
17 Welfare for a person who is capable of but not willing to
18 assume a job.

19
20 The use of food stamps to purchase nonessential food items
21 or to obtain cash over one dollar.

22 **WE BELIEVE (2015)**

23
24
25 We believe it to be man's inalienable right to worship God,
26 to offer prayers and to read the Bible as God's Word in
27 private and public places, including classrooms.

28
29 The nutritional value of meat and its promotion as an
30 essential part of everyone's daily diet.

31
32 We recognize the need to expand livestock production in
33 the state and encourage the construction of processing
34 facilities.

35
36 County ordinances are determined by the people and set to
37 be fair and equitable standards for all.

38
39 We support a concentrated effort by the public and private
40 sector to isolate and defeat chronic wasting disease in both
41 wildlife and livestock.

42
43 Juveniles should be responsible for their actions when laws
44 are broken and/or property is destroyed.

45
46 We believe land use is the right and responsibility of the
47 individual landowner. Whenever land use decisions are
48 made, the rights of individual property owners should be
49 given the highest consideration.

50
51 Railroads must put forth their best efforts to address local
52 concerns such as safety, noise, and adjoining landowner
53 issues.

54
55 Privatization of certain government functions will reduce
56 spending, lower the number of employees, be more
57 effective and save tax dollars.

58
59 We should work closely with and lend our support to the
60 South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems to

61 effectively promote and secure water for all South Dakota
62 communities needing a dependable source of water.

63
64 Farm Bureau be opposed to modifying, changing, or
65 otherwise defacing the faces on Mount Rushmore. (Moody
66 2017)

67
68 SDFB work with SD Department of Agriculture, the SD
69 Attorney's General Office, and such enforcement agencies
70 to remove imitator dairy products from the "dairy case" in
71 stores selling such food products. (Minnehaha 2017)

72
73 In a marketing campaign that promotes and markets
74 agricultural products into international markets.
75 (Minnehaha 2017)

76
77
78 ****Policy Book Reviewed in 2017**