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5 **2017 RESOLUTIONS OF THE**  
6 **SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

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14 **PREAMBLE**

15  
16 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) is a non-partisan, non-profit  
17 corporation committed to promoting the profitability of South Dakota corn producers.

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19 The SDCGA works to promote corn and improve corn profitability; influence public  
20 policy and legislative efforts; and increase corn usage through livestock feeding and new  
21 domestic products to improve the quality of life in a changing world.

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42 **GENERAL**

43  
44 The SDCGA supports efforts of all Corn Growers Associations to increase corn  
45 profitability.

46 The SDCGA supports research to understand the carbon footprint of corn production in  
South Dakota. (12)

The SDCGA supports balancing the federal budget. (11)

The SDCGA supports legislation strengthening property rights and vested drainage rights  
of agricultural land in South Dakota.

The SDCGA supports the change of cooperative tax laws to equal the tax benefits of  
other business entities.

The SDCGA supports a Productivity-Based Property Tax System. (10)

The SDCGA supports free trade agreements that do not leave sectors of agriculture  
vulnerable to dumping.

The SDCGA is opposed to any new tax on ag inputs. (15)

The SDCGA is opposed to taxes on dyed diesel. (15)

The SDCGA supports ag land property taxes based on highest and best use. (16)

The SDCGA opposes ag land property taxes based on actual use. (16)

42 **AG PROCESSING/ETHANOL**

43  
44 The SDCGA encourages the use of ethanol-blended fuel and degradable plastics.

45  
46 The SDCGA supports the usage of ethanol or biodiesel in all state owned vehicles. (11)

1  
2 The SDCGA supports requiring all combustion vehicles built be flex fuel. (11)  
3  
4 The SDCGA supports research to determine the maximum amount of ethanol that can be  
5 productively utilized by non-flex fuel vehicles.  
6  
7 The SDCGA encourages retail fuel outlets across the US to offer E-15. (12)  
8  
9 The SDCGA supports putting blender pumps for ethanol blended fuels throughout the US  
10 that would give flex fuel vehicle owners the opportunity to select the blend of Ethanol  
11 and unleaded that is the most cost effective for their vehicle upon appropriate federal  
12 approval. (11)  
13  
14 The SDCGA supports the Small Producer Tax Credit.  
15  
16 The SDCGA supports ethanol and other biofuels as alternative aviation fuels.  
17  
18 The SDCGA demands the full implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard.  
19  
20 The SDCGA supports science and research to enable corn-starch ethanol to qualify as an  
21 advanced biofuel under RFS2. (11)  
22  
23 The SDCGA supports the development of a dedicated ethanol pipeline system in the U.S.  
24 (08)  
25  
26 The SDCGA requests that a majority of any economic development funds generated by  
27 the state of South Dakota be directed toward new or expanding ag processing facilities.  
28  
29 The SDCGA will inform and encourage producers to become involved with and invest in  
30 producer-owned, value-added processing plants and businesses.  
31  
32 The SDCGA will work with all agricultural commodity groups to support promoting the  
33 verification of commercial moisture tester accuracy by the Public Utilities Commission  
34 (PUC) on a random basis.  
35  
36 The SDCGA supports DDG research to develop methods, which would aid in the product  
37 handling, feeding, transportation and consistency for end-users. (08)  
38  
39 The SDCGA favors a law to only require a simple majority of the zoning board to obtain  
40 a conditional use permit.  
41  
42 The SDCGA supports state legislative changes that would allow agriculture commodity  
43 groups to take an ownership position in value-added facilities.  
44  
45 The SDCGA opposes any constitutional amendment creating new limitations on  
46 agricultural business structures and business practices.

1 The SDCGA supports in-state value-added agricultural processing and the efforts of SD  
2 Ag Commodity Groups to promote their products and increase profitability for their  
3 members.

4  
5 The South Dakota Corn Growers supports establishment of federal fuel standards which  
6 increase octane requirements in finished gasoline through higher blends of ethanol for use  
7 in higher compression engines for improved fuel economy and air quality. (14)

8  
9 **LIVESTOCK**

10  
11 The SDCGA opposes concentration in the meat packing industry.

12  
13 The SDCGA supports state legislation that would set zoning laws and environmental  
14 regulations on a statewide basis and once these regulations have been met and a state  
15 permit has been issued for a new or expanding livestock facility, the permitting and  
16 zoning process is complete.

17  
18 The SDCGA supports the standardization of animal units across the state (standardization  
19 based upon federal regulations).

20  
21 The SDCGA supports statewide standardization of conditional use permits.

22  
23 The SDCGA supports tax efforts including access to Tax Increment Financing (TIF)  
24 districts to expand livestock production in South Dakota.

25  
26 The SDCGA supports expanding the definition of value-added agriculture used by the SD  
27 Board of Economic Development to include any processes that include the feeding of  
28 commodities such as corn to animals.

29  
30 The SDCGA opposes any dumping of livestock or meat products in the U.S. meat  
31 market. (09)

32  
33 The SDCGA is opposed to any proposal that would tax livestock producers for their  
34 animal's green house gas emissions. (09)

35  
36 The SDCGA opposes any efforts by township to restrict agricultural production. (09)

37  
38 The SDCGA supports responsible science based animal husbandry practices. (10)

39  
40 **FARM BILL**

41  
42 The SDCGA request our South Dakota Congressional delegation in Washington to strive  
43 for fairness of trade in ag policies, including the enforcement of existing US trade  
44 regulations.

45

1 The SDCGA urges Congress to maintain the payment limits set forth in the 2007 Farm  
2 Bill. (10)

3  
4 The SDCGA supports across the board cuts in federal spending to balance the US  
5 Government Budget. These cuts include USDA programs. (11)

6  
7 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports conservation compliance being  
8 attached to crop insurance premium assistance if the Natural Resource Conservation  
9 Service is able to give accurate certified wetland determinations within 12 months of a  
10 producer making application. (14)

11  
12 The South Dakota Corn Growers supports conservation compliance for the betterment of  
13 our environment. (14)

## 14 15 **EXPORT/TRADE**

16  
17 The SDCGA urges Congress to increase its efforts to remove sanctions to free trade.

18  
19 The SDCGA supports Trade Promotion Authority to provide fair treatment for U.S.  
20 producers. (08)

21  
22 The SDCGA emphasize that biotech issues not be used as a trade barrier.

23  
24 The SDCGA supports and encourages U.S. Grains Council and all corn organizations'  
25 efforts to promote the export of corn in all forms whether it be whole-kernel corn or  
26 through value-added products such as ethanol and DDGS. (16)

## 27 28 **ENVIRONMENT**

29  
30 The SDCGA will work with interested groups who are concerned with clean air and  
31 water to come up with positive legislation that not only protects the environment, but also  
32 ensures a strong viable agricultural industry.

33  
34 The SDCGA believes that all Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) should remain  
35 voluntary, be incentive based, and that farmers should be part of the decision-making  
36 process concerning TMDL assessment and monitoring.

37  
38 The SDCGA supports the placing of only environmentally sensitive farmland into the  
39 Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) program and at rates that do not exceed average  
40 county rental rates for land of similar production capabilities.

41  
42 The SDCGA supports research to understand the economic and environmental impact of  
43 water management on agricultural land. (12)

44  
45 The SDCGA supports the reporting for CAFO's under the EPA's Clean Water Act to  
46 remain the same. (12)

1 The SDCGA opposes EPA's consideration to impose control over all non navigational  
2 waterways. (11)

3  
4 The SDCGA supports better, clearer, and more objective definitions for a wetland,  
5 farmed wetland, or prior converted wetland, which are not open to discretionary  
6 interpretation by the various governmental levels of Natural Resources Conservation  
7 Services (NRCS).

8  
9 The SDCGA supports a wetland mitigation process. (08)

10  
11 The SDCGA encourages producers to continually work on improving their nutrient  
12 management practices for the economic and environmental benefits it would provide.  
13 (11)

14  
15 The SDCGA supports the use of modern technology and more accurate information that  
16 is presently available to update the soil survey maps across South Dakota. (12)

17 The SDCGA supports changing permanent easements to no more than 99 years.

18  
19 The SDCGA supports the option for current surface landowners to buy back U.S. Fish  
20 and Wildlife Service and NRCS perpetual conservation easements at market value with  
21 the proceeds to reduce the national debt. (12)

22  
23 The SDCGA supports the procedural adjustments made by South Dakota Natural  
24 Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) (to comply with Swamp buster provisions of  
25 the 1985 Farm Bill), which put South Dakota producers on a level playing field with the  
26 rest of the nation when it comes to how wetlands determinations are made.

27  
28 The SDCGA supports corn and ethanol industry research and investment into economic  
29 and sustainable low carbon technologies to further improve our Green House Gas (GHG)  
30 accounting score. (11)

31  
32 The SDCGA demands that scientifically verifiable data be used when considering  
33 indirect Green House Gas (GHG) emission effects such as Indirect Land Use Change  
34 (ILUC), and believe that all energy sources should be held accountable for their indirect  
35 effects, based on equal boundaries. (11)

36  
37 The SDCGA supports using marginal petroleum source emissions as the petroleum  
38 baseline when calculating Green House Gas (GHG) reductions for biofuels. (11)

39  
40 The SDCGA believes if biogenic carbon emissions are counted in calculations for Green  
41 House Gas (GHG) emissions from combustion of biomass and/or biofuels, full credit  
42 must be given for the GHG uptake and sequestration from the growing crop. (11)

43  
44 The SDCGA opposes EPA's consideration to require a permit for every application of a  
45 pesticide. (10)

46

1 The SDCGA urges EPA to use sound science in determining environmental impacts  
2 when it comes to the use of crop protection products. (11)

3  
4 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports proper water management  
5 programs and the opportunity to increase land productivity. (14)

6  
7 The SDCGA supports a value on carbon, while recognizing corn's ability to sequester  
8 carbon in the soil. (17)

9  
10 The SDCGA supports the use of site-specific radar generated rainfall data in determining  
11 normal, wet and dry years in regards to wetland determination methods. (17)

12  
13 The SDCGA supports the use of private 3<sup>rd</sup> party wetland consultants and engineers in  
14 regards to NRCS wetland determinations and wetland mitigation. (17)

## 15 16 **TRANSPORTATION**

17  
18 The SDCGA supports a competitive infrastructure of rail, waterways and trucks to  
19 provide service for all ag products. (08)

20  
21 The SDCGA supports anti-trust rail legislation. (10)

22  
23 The SDCGA supports ag production having a right of standing in any rail rate case that  
24 may be brought forward. (10)

25  
26 The SDCGA supports reduction in filing fees for rail rate cases and a concrete deadline  
27 for ruling on rate cases. (10)

28  
29 The SDCGA supports a preamble of the law to reflect greater priority for shippers. (10)

30  
31 The SDCGA supports having the surface transportation board being fully operational and  
32 required to provide regulatory assistance.

33  
34 The SDCGA supports railroad improvements in South Dakota, which enhances  
35 competition. (11)

36  
37 The SDCGA supports a federal feasibility study of national transportation corridors as a  
38 means of transporting people, goods, energy and services in a clean and efficient manner.  
39 (09)

## 40 41 **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

42  
43 The SDCGA supports the positive contributions of biotechnology as it relates to human  
44 health, the environment, grain quality, and production benefits.

45

1 The SDCGA supports the commercial release of biotech corn hybrids or products that  
2 have been fully approved by the relevant U.S. regulatory agencies and for which the  
3 product registrant is aggressively pursuing approval in every country or bloc that requires  
4 approval prior to importation of corn, corn products, or food containing corn ingredients.  
5

6 The SDCGA supports the U.S. regulatory system, including the Food and Drug  
7 Administration (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and  
8 Environmental Protection Administration (EPA), and their use of sound science in  
9 determining regulations for utilization and development of biotechnology traits.  
10

11 The SDCGA supports the strict enforcement of science-based isolation and containment  
12 requirements for the research, production and processing of all crops that are not  
13 approved for food and feed use in the United States and key export markets in order to  
14 protect the commercial grain industry and food supply. (08)  
15

16 The SDCGA supports enforcement policies that require producers to follow the refuge  
17 requirement in order to protect against insect resistance. (08)  
18

19 The SDCGA supports the development of internationally accepted, science based  
20 tolerance standards.  
21

22 The SDCGA supports the technology agreements indemnify producers from liability  
23 once they follow regulations and guidelines provided by the biotech provider and seed  
24 companies.  
25

26 The SDCGA supports the establishment of a publicly funded research center at a land  
27 grant-institution including South Dakota State University (SDSU) to disseminate  
28 information, science, etc. about biotech.  
29

30 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports licensing all seed and technology  
31 discovered at SDSU. The SDCGA also supports that the ownership of all germ plasm  
32 remain at SDSU. (14)