

# 2018 RESOLUTIONS OF THE



AS ADOPTED BY THE MEMBERS  
ASSEMBLED FOR THE  
2018 ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 20, 2018  
SIOUX FALLS CONVENTION CENTER  
SIOUX FALLS, SD

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The South Dakota Corn Growers Association works to increase the profitability of all South Dakota Corn farmers through our membership's strong voice in all legislative activities.

What we believe:

- A commitment to meet the needs of our consumers and customers in a changing world
- Encourage national and state leaders to lead policy that promotes a thriving agricultural sector
- Improving our national infrastructure that will allow farmers to get their products to market in a safe and effective manner
- Helping secure a bright future for tomorrow's farmers and not limiting their opportunities
- Leaving our land in better shape than we found it so generations to come can meet the needs of the growing world population

1 **2018 RESOLUTIONS OF THE**  
2 **SOUTH DAKOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION**  
3

4 **PREAMBLE**  
5

6 The South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA) is a non-partisan, non-profit  
7 corporation committed to promoting the profitability of South Dakota corn farmers.  
8

9 The SDCGA works to promote corn and improve corn profitability; influence public  
10 policy and legislative efforts; and increase corn usage through livestock feeding and new  
11 domestic products to improve the quality of life in a changing world.  
12

13 **GENERAL**  
14

15 We support efforts of all Corn Growers Associations to increase corn profitability.  
16

17 We support research to understand the carbon footprint of corn production in South  
18 Dakota. (12)  
19

20 We support legislation strengthening property rights and vested drainage rights of  
21 agricultural land in South Dakota.  
22

23 We support cooperative tax laws to equal the tax benefits of other business entities. (18)  
24

25 We support a Productivity-Based Property Tax System. (10)  
26

27 We support free trade agreements that do not leave sectors of agriculture vulnerable to  
28 dumping.  
29

30 We are opposed to any new tax on ag inputs. (15)  
31

32 We are opposed to taxes on dyed diesel. (15)  
33

34 We support ag land property taxes based on highest and best use. (16)  
35

36 We oppose ag land property taxes based on actual use. (16)  
37

38 We support education for farmers, urban consumers and regulators about safe and  
39 efficient use of agriculture chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides based on adequate, peer-  
40 reviewed and impartial scientific evidence maintaining the current level of tolerances.  
41 (18)  
42

43 We support a statewide voluntary nutrient management plan for South Dakota. (18)  
44  
45

1 We support the development and the building of the precision ag project at SDSU. We  
2 believe this is a game changer in the agriculture sector and believe that the same funding  
3 source from the state of South Dakota that finished out ADRDL should be put in place to  
4 help finish this project. (18)

5  
6 **AG PROCESSING/ETHANOL**

7  
8 We encourage the use of ethanol-blended fuel and degradable plastics.

9  
10 We support the usage of ethanol or biodiesel in all state owned vehicles. (11)

11  
12 We support research to determine the maximum amount of ethanol that can be  
13 productively utilized by non-flex fuel vehicles.

14  
15 We encourage retail fuel outlets across the US to offer E-15. (12)

16  
17 We support putting blender pumps for ethanol blended fuels throughout the US that  
18 would give flex fuel vehicle owners the opportunity to select the blend of Ethanol and  
19 unleaded that is the most cost effective for their vehicle upon appropriate federal  
20 approval. (11)

21  
22 We support ethanol and other biofuels as alternative aviation fuels.

23  
24 We demand the full implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard.

25  
26 We support science and research to enable corn-starch ethanol to qualify as an advanced  
27 biofuel under RFS2. (11)

28  
29 We support the development of a dedicated ethanol pipeline system in the U.S. (08)

30  
31 We request that a majority of any economic development funds generated by the state of  
32 South Dakota be directed toward new or expanding ag processing facilities.

33  
34 We will inform and encourage farmers to become involved with and invest in producer-  
35 owned, value-added processing plants and businesses.

36  
37 We will work with all agricultural commodity groups to support promoting the  
38 verification of commercial moisture tester accuracy by the Public Utilities Commission  
39 (PUC) on a random basis.

40  
41 We support DDG research to develop methods, which would aid in the product handling,  
42 feeding, transportation and consistency for end-users. (08)

43  
44 We oppose any constitutional amendment creating new limitations on agricultural  
45 business structures and business practices.

46

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

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

8  
9 We support EPA continuing tax credits for E85 vehicles past 2017. (18)

10  
11 We urge Congress to update base acres in every farm bill to more accurately reflect  
12 production planting across the U.S. (18)

13  
14 We support consistent treatment of E15 and E10 with regard to summer blends, vapor  
15 pressure caps and waivers. (18)

16  
17 **LIVESTOCK**

18  
19 We favor a law to only require a simple majority of the zoning board to obtain a  
20 conditional use permit.

21  
22 We support the standardization of animal units across the state (standardization based  
23 upon federal regulations).

24  
25 We support expanding the definition of value-added agriculture used by the SD Board of  
26 Economic Development to include any processes that include the feeding of commodities  
27 such as corn to animals.

28  
29 We oppose any dumping of livestock or meat products in the U.S. meat market. (09)

30  
31 We are opposed to any proposal that would tax livestock producers for their animal's  
32 green house gas emissions. (09)

33  
34 We oppose any efforts by township to restrict agricultural production. (09)

35  
36 We support responsible science based animal husbandry practices. (10)

37  
38 **FARM BILL**

39  
40 We request our South Dakota Congressional delegation in Washington to strive for  
41 fairness of trade in ag policies, including the enforcement of existing US trade  
42 regulations.

43  
44 We urge Congress to maintain the payment limits set forth in the 2007 Farm Bill. (10)

45  
46 We support conservation compliance for the betterment of our environment. (14)

1 We support conservation compliance being attached to crop insurance premium. (18)

2  
3 We believe the federal government should not guarantee a profit, but it should provide  
4 tools to help manage risk. (18)

5  
6 We support the rural / urban / conservation coalition approach to the farm bill. (18)

7  
8 **EXPORT/TRADE**

9  
10 We urge Congress to increase its efforts to remove sanctions to free trade.

11  
12 We support Trade Promotion Authority to provide fair treatment for U.S. farmers. (08)

13  
14 We emphasize that biotech issues not be used as a trade barrier.

15  
16 We support and encourage the efforts of the U.S. Grains Council (USGC), the Foreign  
17 Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDAFAS), the U.S. Meat Export  
18 Federation (USMEF), and others to increase exports of corn, meats, ethanol, DDGs, and other  
19 agriculturally related value-added products. (18)

20  
21 We support increased funding for foreign market development, market access and research  
22 programs. (18)

23  
24 We support reauthorizing the President's Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). (18)

25  
26 We support legislation and policy that would allow U.S. producers greater access to world  
27 markets. (18)

28  
29 **ENVIRONMENT**

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

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

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

42  
43 We support research to understand the economic and environmental impact of water  
44 management on agricultural land. (12)

45  
46 We support the reporting for CAFO's under the EPA's Clean Water Act to remain the  
47 same. (12)

1 We oppose EPA’s consideration to impose control over all non-navigational waterways.  
2 (11)  
3  
4 We support better, clearer, and more objective definitions for a wetland, farmed wetland,  
5 or prior converted wetland, which are not open to discretionary interpretation by the  
6 various governmental levels of Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS).  
7  
8 We support a wetland mitigation process. (08)  
9  
10 We encourage producers to continually work on improving their nutrient management  
11 practices for the economic and environmental benefits it would provide. (11)  
12  
13 We support the use of modern technology and more accurate information that is presently  
14 available to update the soil survey maps across South Dakota. (12)  
15  
16 We support changing permanent easements to no more than 99 years.  
17  
18 We support the option for current surface landowners to buy back U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
19 Service and NRCS perpetual conservation easements at market value with the proceeds to  
20 reduce the national debt. (12)  
21  
22 We support the procedural adjustments made by South Dakota Natural Resources  
23 Conservation Services (NRCS) (to comply with Swamp buster provisions of the 1985  
24 Farm Bill), which put South Dakota farmers on a level playing field with the rest of the  
25 nation when it comes to how wetlands determinations are made.  
26  
27 We support corn and ethanol industry research and investment into economic and  
28 sustainable low carbon technologies to further improve our Green House Gas (GHG)  
29 accounting score. (11)  
30  
31 We demand that scientifically verifiable data be used when considering indirect Green  
32 House Gas (GHG) emission effects such as Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC), and  
33 believe that all energy sources should be held accountable for their indirect effects, based  
34 on equal boundaries. (11)  
35  
36 We support using marginal petroleum source emissions as the petroleum baseline when  
37 calculating Green House Gas (GHG) reductions for biofuels. (11)  
38  
39 We believe if biogenic carbon emissions are counted in calculations for Green House Gas  
40 (GHG) emissions from combustion of biomass and/or biofuels, full credit must be given  
41 for the GHG uptake and sequestration from the growing crop. (11)  
42  
43 We oppose EPA’s consideration to require a permit for every application of a pesticide.  
44 (10)  
45

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

3  
4 We support proper water management programs and the opportunity to increase land  
5 productivity. (14)

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

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

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

15  
16 **TRANSPORTATION**

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

20  
21 We support anti-trust rail legislation. (10)

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

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

28  
29 We support a preamble of the law to reflect greater priority for shippers. (10)

30  
31 We support having the surface transportation board being fully operational and required  
32 to provide regulatory assistance.

33  
34 We support railroad improvements in South Dakota, which enhances competition. (11)

35  
36 We support efforts to improve and expand transportation for the movement of  
37 agricultural products by all forms of transportation. (18)

38  
39 **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

40  
41 We support the positive contributions of biotechnology as it relates to human health, the  
42 environment, grain quality, and production benefits.

43  
44  
45



1 We support the commercial release of biotech corn hybrids or products that have been  
2 fully approved by the relevant U.S. regulatory agencies and for which the product  
3 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 We support the U.S. regulatory system, including the Food and Drug Administration  
7 (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection  
8 Administration (EPA), and their use of sound science in determining regulations for  
9 utilization and development of biotechnology traits.  
10

11 We support 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 We support enforcement policies that require farmers to follow the refuge requirement in  
17 order to protect against insect resistance. (08)  
18

19 We support the development of internationally accepted, science based tolerance  
20 standards.  
21

22 We support the technology agreements indemnify farmers from liability once they follow  
23 regulations and guidelines provided by the biotech provider and seed companies.  
24

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

29 We support licensing all seed and technology discovered at SDSU. The SDCGA also  
30 supports that the ownership of all germ plasm remains at SDSU. (14)