



SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

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Member Update

SDDP to represent at NMPF Immigration Reform Fly-in Washington DC

The House in December passed the Farm Workforce Modernization Act (H.R. 5038), a bipartisan agriculture labor reform bill SDDP worked to support via NMPF, Edge Cooperative, and others. Attention now shifts to the Senate, so it becomes critical to meet with Republican and Democratic offices who will be key to moving a bill forward. Although he has not announced publicly yet, Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina is expected to lead this process for Republicans, while Senator Dianne Feinstein of California is expected to do so for Democrats. We have been advised that Senator Rounds is part of a task committee that Senator Tillis has assembled, so are in frequent communication with his office to ensure the voice of South Dakota Dairy is heard.

Next steps are unclear for how the bill is taken up in the Senate, but Board Chair Marv Post and staff Tom Peterson will be participating in the rally scheduled for March 11th and 12th, 2020, as well as meeting with our own South Dakota Senate delegation or offices. State Dairy Association Board members from Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota are also participating in this group.

SDDP Board Chair Post participates in Press Release for Governor Noem Senate Bill for Zoning Improvement

Board Chair Marv Post spoke during the press release at the Black Hills Stockshow and Rodeo in support of Governor Noem’s bill to standardize and streamline zoning processes for South Dakota projects.



The bill (Senate Bill 157) has since passed out of committee as well as the Senate, and now goes to the House of Representatives for further action. Follow the bill at sdlegislature.gov under SB 157.

Help Support SDDP’s Work, Join SDDP Today:

Membership dues continue to come in for the 2020 work year. A new option this year is online membership application and pay by credit card. Check out www.sddairyproducers.org under the “Membership” tab or call Tom Peterson at 605.251.2439 to discuss opportunities.



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SDDP Participates in World Ag Expo

South Dakota Dairy exhibit in Tulare uses no farmer membership dues to accomplish

At the December 19th, 2019 SDDP Board meeting, the board passed a motion that South Dakota Dairy make an effort to retain presence at the World Ag Expo held annually in Tulare, California. A key element of the action was that the intent would be to retain the presence, but do so using no farmer member dues in the process.

With the tremendous assistance of industry supporters and a dedicated group of stakeholders to work at the exhibit, this was accomplished. The work became necessary with a shift in strategy by the state, to focus more on individual meetings instead of the investment of time in the exhibit. Representatives from the Governor’s Office of Economic Development were present at the Expo, and our hope is that the relationships and contacts they were able to experience will lend itself to a significant role next year with the benefit the state is able to realize due to the dairy industry growth in South Dakota.



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