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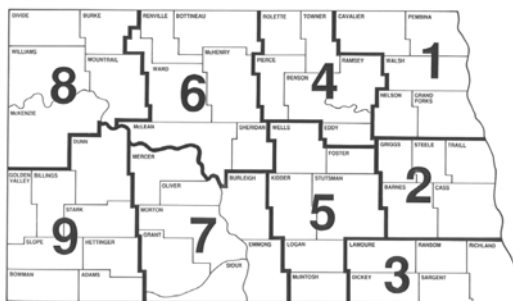
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Farm Bureau Beliefs

- America's unparalleled progress is based on freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts.
- Economic progress, cultural advancement, ethical and religious principles flourish best where people are free, responsible individuals.
- Individual freedom and opportunity must not be sacrificed in a quest for guaranteed "security."
- We believe in government by legislative and constitutional law, impartially administered, without special privilege.
- We believe in the representative form of government—a republic—as provided in our Constitution, in limitations on government power, in maintenance of equal opportunity, in the right of each individual to freedom of worship and in freedom of speech, press and peaceful assembly.
- We believe that the basic principles of Americanism—with emphasis upon freedom, dignity and the responsibility of the individual, and our private competitive enterprise system—should be taught in the schools.
- Individuals have a moral responsibility to help preserve freedom for future generations by participating in public affairs and by helping to elect candidates who share their fundamental beliefs and principles.
- People have the right and the responsibility to speak for themselves individually or through organizations of their choice without coercion or government intervention.
- Property rights are among the human rights essential to the preservation of individual freedom.
- We believe in the right of every person to choose an occupation; to be rewarded according to his/her contribution to society; to save, invest or spend; and to convey his/ her property to heirs. Each person has the responsibility to meet financial obligations incurred.
- We believe that legislation and regulations favorable to all sectors of agriculture should be aggressively developed in cooperation with allied groups possessing common goals.
- We support the right of private organizations to require membership as a prerequisite for member services.

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Notes

Throughout this policy book, you will notice a small number at the end of each policy statement. The number following the ID number (after the slash) denotes the year the Farm Bureau policy was adopted by the voting delegates. The policies adopted in 2011 will be automatically deleted from NDFB policy at the next annual meeting unless voting delegate action commands otherwise. The number 12 designates policy from 2012 and the number 13 denotes policy adopted at the past NDFB Annual Meeting in Fargo.

If any policy conflicts with another policy, the most recently adopted policy takes precedence.

Purpose

Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm and ranch families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvements, economic opportunity and social advancement and, thereby to promote the national well-being. Farm Bureau is local, county, state, national and international in scope and influence and is non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-secret in charter. Farm Bureau is the voice of agricultural producers at all levels.

Vision

The vision of North Dakota Farm Bureau is to be the most influential and respected organization in the state of North Dakota.

Preamble

The precepts set out by our constitutional government recognize that the greatest potential for self-expression is realized when we follow the free enterprise system. Through the use of the democratic process to legislate our concerns on local, state and national levels, we strive to preserve our American heritage, thereby strengthening our home, our schools and our churches.

Section 100 - General Agriculture

Agricultural Credit and Finance Policy **101.00**

We support the Beginning Farm Loan Program.---ID#: 101.01
1894/14

We believe that all agricultural land repossessed by 101.02
government agencies should be put up for sale to private
individuals and that no federal or state entity should be
allowed to obtain it or be granted easements or acquire
any existing mineral rights.---ID#: 1070/13

Agricultural Marketing **102.00**

We support engaging with the public to share what 102.01
sustainability means on our own farms, ranches and
agribusinesses.---ID#: 1963/15

We support the continued education of the public on the 102.02
safety of GMO and non GMO products.---ID#: 2000/15

We should advocate the promotion of North Dakota 102.03
agricultural related products.---ID#: 1568/15

We shall work with other agricultural organizations and 102.04
commodity groups to promote the American consumers'
right to an informed purchasing choice, i.e. where and
how their food is grown compared to other countries, and
to promote the benefit of American grown produce.---
ID#: 6/14

Agricultural Research and Extension	103.00
We favor solutions to prevent cross contamination of crops through the transportation of agricultural products.--ID#: 2031/15	103.01
We support funding for agricultural research in the university system.---ID#: 1321/15	103.02
We support research and development of feeding livestock and animal feeding facilities that may lead to more feeding and marketing of livestock and livestock products in North Dakota and promote the use of our feed grains and co-products.---ID#: 1699/15	103.03
We support bee research and development in North Dakota. We urge the Department of Agriculture to help in the funding of such projects.---ID#: 1487/14	103.04
We support all North Dakota institutions of higher education in further research and development in unmanned agriculture technology.---ID#: 1525/14	103.05
We encourage groups requesting state funding for agricultural research to apply through the State Board of Agricultural and Research Extension (SBARE).---ID#: 1822/14	103.06
We support the USDA-ARS Northern Crops Science Lab, USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory, NDSU Extension Service, NDSU Research Centers, Northern Crops Institute and USDA-ARS Human Nutrition Laboratory.---ID#: 1098/13	103.07
<i>Biotechnology</i>	
North Dakota should take a proactive stance in the research, development, commercialization and marketing of modern farming technologies.---ID#: 1887/14	103.08

Commodity Groups	104.00
We believe that North Dakota Farm Bureau should be recognized by the North Dakota Legislature and the Governor of North Dakota to be allowed a minimum of two voting seats on the North Dakota State Beef Commission.---ID#: 1866/14	104.01
We oppose allowing the Legislature to utilize any check-off funds from any commodity group without the commodity group's consent.---ID#: 9/14	104.02
Whenever any commodity group asks for a voluntary increase of their check-off, it must be on an opt-in, not an opt-out, basis.---ID#: 1861/14	104.03
We support the North Dakota Wheat Commission in its efforts to promote wheat through research and market development.---ID#: 674/13	104.04
Grain Bonding and Bankruptcy	105.00
Undelivered grain will not be able to participate in the indemnity fund.---ID#: 1380/13	105.01
We support legislation that protects unsecured debtors in prepay agreements and contracts against financial loss.---ID#: 1710/13	105.02
We support an increase in elevator bonds to more realistically reflect current prices.---ID#: 1762/13	105.03
We support law that directs bankruptcy courts to recognize legal scale tickets, warehouse receipts, and receipts for fertilizer, chemicals and other inputs held by farmers as legal documents indicating that they are the legal owners of such property held in a bankrupt elevator or warehouse.---ID#: 1790/13	105.04

Miscellaneous	106.00
We shall support the definition of sustainable agriculture as currently defined by the state of North Dakota.---ID#: 1823/14	106.01
 Section 200 - Animal Agriculture	
Animal Welfare	201.00
We oppose the practices of anti-agriculture activist or environmental groups, such as the Humane Society of the United States and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, that are detrimental to agriculture and private ownership of land and animals in North Dakota. We oppose the promotion of their agendas in schools and the use of state-funded media for this purpose.---ID#: 1938/14	201.01
 We believe that when animals are sick or at risk of becoming sick they should be cared for in adherence with evidence-based standards of veterinary medicine to decrease suffering and production loss.---ID#: 1810/14	201.02
 We support the ethical treatment of animals but oppose elevating animals to the level of humans.---ID#: 1889/14	201.03
 We support legislation that allows licensed veterinarians of North Dakota to prescribe medicines to ranchers for large animal livestock on their property without visual diagnosis.---ID#: 1779/13	201.04

Brands and Brand Inspection	202.00
We believe any animal identification program should be voluntary and market-driven. We oppose any and all attempts to make it a mandatory, government-run program. In the National Animal Identification program, we support the state brand system as a means of identification, operated by the North Dakota Stockmen's Association. Any new method of livestock identification should only be considered if it is proven equally practical and cost effective as current methods and is a legally recognized form of proof of ownership in all states having livestock brand laws.---ID#: 1878/14	202.01
General Animal Ag	203.00
We support the expansion and diversification of animal agriculture in North Dakota.---ID#: 2023/15	203.01
We support the odor setbacks that established statewide guidelines, which were set forth by the 2005 Legislative Session.---ID#: 922/15	203.02
We urge the governor and the Emergency Commission to provide funding to the Board of Animal Health for testing and depopulating tuberculosis or brucellosis-infected herds of both domestic and non-traditional livestock.---ID#: 944/15	203.03
We support the State Board of Animal Health Administrative Rule regarding the interstate movement of livestock.---ID#: 1579/15	203.04
We support the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic lab and its work and goal of expanding staffing and technological advancements to better serve the producers of North Dakota.---ID#: 1602/15	203.05

We support the reinstatement of federal funding for meat inspectors in horse processing facilities. If this is not attained, we urge the North Dakota Department of Agriculture to work closely with other states to find a way to fund our inspectors.---ID#: 1645/15	203.06
We support labeling of U.S Beef through the channels of free enterprise and entrepreneurship rather than a government mandated COOL program.---ID#: 1838/14	203.07
We believe that agriculture zoning should not be held to a higher standard than zoning for industrial or municipal uses.---ID#: 786/14	203.08
We support the right to harvest any commodity and/or livestock for personal consumption or private sale.---ID#: 1895/14	203.09
We support the North Dakota Board of Animal Health and the Johnes Advisory Committee in its continuation of the volunteer Johnes testing program.---ID#: 623/13	203.10
We support efforts to expand all of the livestock industry in North Dakota.---ID#: 1388/13	203.11

Section 300 - Transportation

Highways, Funding and Maintenance	301.00
We support a FEMA cost share to allow for improvements when township/county roads, ditches or bridges are damaged, rather than simply restoring to original condition.---ID#: 1573/15	301.01
We support increased state funding for repairs and maintenance of county and township roads.---ID#: 1932/14	301.02

We believe that when hard surfaced roads are resurfaced or top-lifted, the shoulder should also be raised.---ID#: 1545/14	301.03
As a result of state highway construction, if heavily-used township or county roads are damaged, the townships or counties should be fully compensated for the damages to the roads.---ID#: 1414/13	301.04
Railroads	302.00
We support the expansion and addition of railways throughout the state to aid in the transportation of all goods.---ID#: 1974/15	302.01
We support efforts by the North Dakota Public Service Commission to work for equity in grain freight rates.---ID#: 1656/15	302.02
Miscellaneous	303.00
We encourage funding of rural roads and bridges by recommendations of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute or based on mileage.---ID#: 1820/14	303.01
We support the unrestricted movement of all types of farm machinery on all roads in North Dakota. We also encourage safe and courteous practices used by farmers transporting machinery and promote public awareness of farm machinery being transported on North Dakota roads.---ID#: 1931/14	303.02
We support the North Dakota DOT taking full control of all currently paved roads within the state.---ID#: 1828/14	303.03

We support the rebuilding of the Spillway Pond road below Garrison Dam. This will help with the safety for the safe crossing of the dam by not having to drive across the spillway structure with large farm equipment.---ID#: 1712/13	303.04
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Section 400 - Government

Courts and the Legal System	401.00
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The judicial branch should be prohibited from considering international law or religious law when deciding cases.---ID#: 1550/14	401.01
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Government Operations	402.00
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Military units stationed in North Dakota should be able to assist families of deployed soldiers with normal training activities when those families encounter emergencies, at the discretion of the local unit, on the basis of demonstrated need.---ID#: 1937/14	402.01
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We oppose federal or state mandates to cities, counties, townships or school districts or any local jurisdiction without funding such mandates.---ID#: 62/14	402.02
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We support North Dakota regulating its own oil industry with regards to fracking and regulations.---ID#: 1732/13	402.03
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Insurance	403.00
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Health Insurance

We oppose mandates on health insurance.---ID#: 1689/15	403.01
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We encourage increased private competition in the North Dakota health insurance market.---ID#: 1351/13	403.02
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North Dakota Laws	404.00
We support the law known as the Territorial Integrity Act.---ID#: 1965/15	404.01
We believe that the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Commissioner need to have and enforce a system to audit the registration of apiaries to prevent fraud and incorrectly registered apiaries.---ID#: 1987/15	404.02
We believe that we should have the ability to refer extraterritorial zoning.---ID#: 1997/15	404.03
We support that ten percent of the earning from the North Dakota Legacy Fund should be used to fund North Dakota's county and township transportation infrastructure.---ID#: 2009/15	404.04
We support a "Lemon Law" for agricultural equipment sold in the state of North Dakota.---ID#: 1970/15	404.05
We support the elimination of the Corporate Farming Laws in North Dakota and urge NDFB to pursue this.---ID#: 2020/15	404.06
We shall work with townships and counties to develop farmer-friendly, responsible zoning ordinances for animal agriculture.---ID#: 977/15	404.07
We oppose extra-territorial zoning.---ID#: 1690/15	404.08
We support the creation of a law that would protect land used primarily for production agriculture to retain its agricultural designation even when annexed by a city or municipality. Special assessments should be deferred until the land is developed.---ID#: 1913/14	404.09

We support a farm-friendly driver's license program with a minimum age at 14.5.---ID#: 1467/14	404.10
We oppose buyout clauses of contracts for public positions drawing more than \$100,000 per year.---ID#: 1821/14	404.11
We oppose Agenda 21 and any sustainable development programs with an agenda to change social justice to equal, to replace free enterprise with public/private partnerships, and puts nature above man, which would include agriculture, to control all activity in our communities, state and nation.---ID#: 1836/14	404.12
We believe a law should be passed requiring elected legislators to be residents of the legislative district that they are elected to represent.---ID#: 1883/14	404.13
We believe that non-ethanol gas should be available for those who want to purchase it.---ID#: 1885/14	404.14
We believe zoning authority should be controlled at the township level when the townships choose to do so.---ID#: 1090/13	404.15
We support harsher penalties for multiple DUI offenders.--ID#: 1738/13	404.16
We believe that immediate fines and penalties should be given to beekeepers that do not follow current state laws and regulations; especially in regards to registering apiaries.---ID#: 1753/13	404.17
We support the amendment of the North Dakota Century Code to promote the legality of single or multiple wire electric fence for the containment of livestock.---ID#: 1773/13	404.18

We support a complete reclamation be completed by pipeline companies including but not limited to seeding grass, removing rocks, replacing top soil, ect.---ID#: 1774/13	404.19
We should work with the North Dakota Legislature to strengthen a "Right to Farm" law, which would protect farmers from nuisance complaints and potential lawsuits arising from the conflict of production agriculture and rural residents.---ID#: 1776/13	404.20
We hereby resolve that in order to protect one of North Dakota's most precious resources, its productive farm and ranch land, that it supports the use of closed loop systems for all drill fluids and cuttings, the mandatory installation of flow meters and pressure cutoff switches on all salt water and oil gathering flow lines.---ID#: 1782/13	404.21
We support increased penalties from malicious criminal behavior relating to the destruction of personal and public property including crops and livestock.---ID#: 1769/13	404.22
State Government	405.00
Any claim that is submitted to the State Ag Department that is frivolous and is withdrawn, any and all expenses incurred with the claim will be paid by the person submitting the claim.---ID#: 1966/15	405.01
We believe no enforcement action can be pursued by the enforcement officers of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Department of Health based on anonymous complaints.---ID#: 1677/15	405.02
We call upon the North Dakota State Legislature to initiate an Amendments Convention to the US Constitution.---ID#: 1844/14	405.03

Section 500 - Tax and Fiscal Policy

Economic Development 501.00

We favor long-term tax law changes, like reduction in corporate income tax, to encourage new businesses to move to North Dakota, rather than offering short-term incentives.---ID#: 1307/15 501.01

APUC (Agricultural Products Utilization Commission) funds shall not be given to any company or individual that has majority ownership out of the state of North Dakota.--ID#: 1557/15 501.02

We support new legislation that would allow outside capital investment by unrelated individuals in the family farm corporation.---ID#: 1406/13 501.03

Farmstead Exemptions 502.00

We support raising the limit of non-farm income for the purposes of property tax exemption.---ID#: 1815/14 502.01

We believe farm residences and buildings should remain tax-exempt.---ID#: 18/14 502.02

Fiscal Policy 503.00

We encourage state legislators to limit the growth of spending.---ID#: 1976/15 503.01

We oppose any and all forms of coercive wealth redistribution.---ID#: 1978/15 503.02

Fuel Tax 504.00

We favor funding for parks and recreation roads and trails come from parks and recreation budgets and not from public road funds.---ID#: 16/14 504.01

We believe that fuel taxes should be dedicated to roads and not recreational trails.---ID#: 97/13	504.02
We oppose increases in vehicle registration fees for pickup and multiple axle trucks.---ID#: 1018/13	504.03
Income Tax	505.00
Landowners who live outside the state of North Dakota are required to pay North Dakota income tax on the earnings from that land; therefore, we favor aggressive enforcement of North Dakota income tax collections from non-resident landowners.---ID#: 84/14	505.01
Oil and Natural Resource Revenue	506.00
We support a change in the oil extraction tax to increase funding for oil impacted areas.---ID#: 2019/15	506.01
We believe that the initial income to the counties from oil tax revenue should be distributed to the counties within six months and quarterly thereafter.---ID#: 1933/14	506.02
Property Taxation	507.00
We propose that counties who have soil committees use the NRCS productivity index in property tax valuations as determined by sound science.---ID#: 1951/15	507.01
We support legislation that would prohibit any property taxing entity from overruling or modifying another property taxing entity's levy on any property without the authorization of the political subdivision that is authorized to impose such tax.---ID#: 1572/15	507.02
We support permanent property tax reform.---ID#: 1816/14	507.03

The North Dakota Farm Bureau shall develop an initiated measure and forward it to the people of North Dakota with regards to property tax reform. The measure shall contain the following elements:	507.04
1. Change all reference of mills to dollars per thousand dollars of taxable valuation.	
2. Baseline budgeting with approval for budget increases approved by the voters on a biennial basis.	
3. Establishment of a fund through which a property tax credit shall be paid to the political subdivisions of the state against a reduction in the taxable valuation of property.	
4. Consolidation of tax levies.---ID#: 1872/14	

We support retaining local township assessors and/or a consolidation of township assessors.---ID#: 1896/14	507.05
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We favor valuation of agricultural land, for tax purposes, be based on the productivity formula.---ID#: 1907/14	507.06
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NDFB is in favor of property tax relief, and supports property tax reform.---ID#: 1327/13	507.07
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Sales Tax	508.00
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We support the retention of agricultural sales tax exemptions.---ID#: 1027/13	508.01
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Section 600 - Education

Agricultural Education	601.00
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We support the increased availability of proper training of rural fire departments in agriculture emergencies.---ID#: 1994/15	601.01
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We support continued state funding, and Farm Bureau's participation, for Ag in the Classroom programs and other educational programs that promote agriculture within schools at all levels.---ID#: 2002/15	601.02
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We support further promotion of agriculture careers through our school guidance programs. Example, interest interviews with students.---ID#: 1809/14 601.03

We support continued state funding and Farm Bureau's participation for Ag in the Classroom programs.---ID#: 1726/13 601.04

Education Administration 602.00

We support local and state jurisdiction over our educational curriculum to best meet the developmental and vocational needs of our students. We oppose nationalized education, which would include common core.---ID#: 1943/15 602.01

We support parental consent for all medical procedures, advice or prescriptions related to any medical program for children in our schools.---ID#: 969/15 602.02

We believe school transportation policies should be established by local school districts, not state mandated.--ID#: 102/14 602.03

We encourage changes in the No Child Left Behind Act during the reauthorization process to provide flexibility and to recognize the differences between students, schools and states.---ID#: 1010/13 602.04

We oppose requiring teachers to have a major in every core class they teach.---ID#: 629/13 602.05

Education Funding 603.00

We propose that small schools receive higher funding per pupil than the bigger schools.---ID#: 1950/15 603.01

We support finding additional ways to fund schools to stop the rising costs of property taxes.---ID#: 555/15 603.02

Higher Education	604.00
We encourage the creation of a course for college credit that addresses present day problems in agriculture and the environment, with focus on developing critical thinking, communication, self-confidence, knowledge base and leadership skills.---ID#: 1961/15	604.01
We support another North Dakota University to be accredited with an Agriculture Education major, in an effort to create more qualifying agriculture education teachers.---ID#: 1829/14	604.02
We support the establishment of a school of Veterinary Medicine in North Dakota.---ID#: 1850/14	604.03
We support the expansion of educational reciprocity funds to increase Veterinary Medicine program as they are not offered in North Dakota.---ID#: 1851/14	604.04
We urge North Dakota colleges to establish more internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job-training to keep our young adults here in North Dakota.---ID#: 1024/13	604.05
We believe NDSU, North Dakota's land grant university, should provide a comprehensive, multi-disciplined agricultural education. We believe the students' support, opinions and involvement is vital in decisions made concerning the College of Ag, Food Systems and Natural Resources. We recognize the university's need to adapt and expand. We encourage NDSU's ability to continue a multi-disciplined agricultural education on a contiguous campus.---ID#: 1399/13	604.06
We support the advancement of agriculture education in all institutions to protect the integrity of North Dakota's agricultural heritage.---ID#: 1759/13	604.07

School Lunches	605.00
We call on the state to investigate and publicize the ramifications of withdrawing from the federal school lunch program and then withdraw from the program.---ID#: 1843/14	605.01
We oppose the promotion of any "meat free" day.---ID#: 1845/14	605.02
We support increasing the minimum requirement of red meat and other animal protein for both K-3 and 4-12 grades.---ID#: 1826/14	605.03
We support local determination of school lunch menus and portion sizes.---ID#: 1852/14	605.04
We support and encourage school garden and orchard programs that involve local schools to raise fresh fruits and vegetables for use in the schools and to be consumed by the students and staff.---ID#: 1729/13	605.05
We urge the North Dakota Legislature to allocate state funding to local school districts to provide additional meal portions to students at no additional cost beyond the standard fee set by each district.---ID#: 1735/13	605.06

Section 700 - Natural and Environmental Resources

Ag Chemicals	701.00
We support the ability of a business to move an anhydrous ammonia plant from the city limits, using existing or grandfathered equipment.---ID#: 818/14	701.01
We support the informative education of the public as to the benefits and safety of the application and use of pesticides and fertilizers.---ID#: 1879/14	701.02

Air Quality	702.00
We object to the Environmental Protection Agency's involvement in agriculture.---ID#: 1880/14	702.01
We oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from our power plants and other sources.---ID#: 1727/13	702.02
Easements	703.00
We support a change in state statute from a single payment system for public utility easements to a system where payments are made annually over the life of the easement.---ID#: 1981/15	703.01
We shall support the establishment of a U.S. Fish & Wildlife easement lease buyout program.---ID#: 2012/15	703.02
All new conservation and preservation easements should be in effect only as long as the signer of the easement owns the land. NDFB stands opposed to perpetual easements.---ID#: 1693/15	703.03
We support an annual easement payment instead of a one-time payment. Payments should reflect current land values.---ID#: 1489/14	703.04
Wildlife and conservation easements should not be perpetual, but should be returned to the landowner when the land is sold and title is transferred.---ID#: 1747/13	703.05
Hunting and Trapping	704.00
We should pursue opening statewide waterfowl season to all hunters for the entire season.---ID#: 1928/14	704.01

We support North Dakota property owners' rights to continue to control all types of hunting, including high-fence hunting, on their property. Property owners or lessees shall decide who hunts their land, and if they prefer, to charge a fee to the hunter for that privilege. We further believe that hunting and recreational rights are land uses, not property title, and therefore, cannot be severed from the surface title of the land.---ID#: 159/14	704.02
We support the creation of a spring Canada goose season concurrent with the existing spring snow goose season to help alleviate crop depredation.---ID#: 1847/14	704.03
We support the reclassification of feral swine to the same classification as "Other Species" with no season and no limits.---ID#: 1875/14	704.04
We oppose limiting the number of out-of-state hunters or any difference in season limitations between resident and non-resident hunters.---ID#: 680/13	704.05
We support a loss of hunting privileges and stiffer financial penalties for hunters who trespass on private land and fail to observe "No Hunting" signs.---ID#: 699/13	704.06
North Dakota Farm Bureau supports all lands as considered posted unless signed otherwise.---ID#: 1763/13	704.07
Miscellaneous	705.00
The EPA shall serve only in an advisory capacity here in North Dakota.---ID#: 1593/15	705.01
We oppose any tax revenue from oil or gas going to conservation groups.---ID#: 1723/13	705.02

Predator Control	706.00
We believe farmers should be allowed to take the necessary steps, including elimination, to keep wildlife from destroying tangible property. Steps should include allowing transferable depredation tags for antlerless deer be made available to landowners in addition to regular hunting season licenses.---ID#: 1267/15	706.01
We ask that the state Game and Fish Department and USDA Wildlife Services Division continue funding the predator control division of the wildlife services department. The control of coyotes, beavers, wolves, mountain lions, and other problem animals and birds is a must for ranchers, farmers and others.---ID#: 1616/15	706.02
In the event that a producer is found to have destructive wildlife on their property, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department shall be required to make every effort to disperse the wildlife by any means necessary.---ID#: 1654/15	706.03
We support creating legislation that would require the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to pay agricultural producers for wildlife depredation of livestock, crops, and stored feed. The producer should be paid for losses at market price or contract price.---ID#: 1813/14	706.04
We support efforts to control the blackbird population to the point where it is no longer an economic problem for agriculture.---ID#: 167/13	706.05
We support the North Dakota Game and Fish to increase funding the USDA predator control.---ID#: 1701/13	706.06
We support efforts to control the Canadian goose population to the point where it is no longer an economic problem for agriculture.---ID#: 1705/13	706.07

Public and Government Owned Lands	707.00
We believe that when land is flooded by navigable lakes, and when the water recedes, the ownership should be returned to the people based on the property lines at the time of flooding.---ID#: 2025/15	707.01
We believe all state school lands should be sold back in its entirety with no encumbrances to an active agricultural producer.---ID#: 1698/15	707.02
We oppose any additional funding for water, wildlife and parks initiatives.---ID#: 1863/14	707.03
We support a no-net gain of government or conservation group-owned land, county by county and state by state.---ID#: 1871/14	707.04
State and federal landowners must abide by all laws (i.e. mowing road ditches, controlling noxious weeds, etc.)---ID#: 1474/14	707.05
We believe the government owns enough land and isn't doing a very good job of taking care of what they have, and that any state conservation funds should not be used to purchase more land.---ID#: 1903/14	707.06
We believe that government-owned lands should be managed with input from the private sector.---ID#: 981/13	707.07
We oppose the gifting of public lands to any organization; however, we support the sale of federal and state land back to the private sector.---ID#: 1051/13	707.08

We believe the 12,000 acres of land around Theodore Roosevelt National Parks Elkhorn Ranch site should not be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.---ID#: 1359/13	707.09
<p>We are opposed to any policies in the Forest Service Management Plan and/or its administrative rule for National Grasslands/Forest Service lands located within North Dakota that alters the multiple-use of such lands, and that would adversely impact North Dakota residents. In addition, North Dakota Farm Bureau is opposed to any policy in the management plan for said lands that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhibits or reduces economic uses of said lands, including, but not limited to, livestock grazing; 2. Reduces the ability to fully develop all energy resources on such land, including, but not limited to, oil, wind, coal or gas resources; 3. Inhibits or reduces recreational uses of said lands; 4. Undermines, or changes, the purpose for which said lands were initially acquired; 5. Reduces revenues from said lands that would reduce payments in lieu of taxes to the counties in which the land is located; and 6. Inhibits or restricts free and unlimited access to improvements (ex. Water, pipelines, fences, roads, etc.) made upon the National Grasslands.---ID#: 1361/13 	707.10
We support the allowance of haying of road ditches that are currently under control of federal entities.---ID#: 1716/13	707.11
We request that the County Commission be notified six months in advance by the State Game & Fish Department of any potential upcoming land purchases in the area.---ID#: 1761/13	707.12

Soil Conservation	708.00
We believe, in years of drought, excessive water, and/or hay shortages, livestock shall take precedence over wildlife for the purpose of early haying and/or grazing on CRP acres.---ID#: 1630/15	708.01
If CRP is released for emergency haying, the Farm Service Agency should be the lead agency and work primarily with agricultural organizations in determining starting dates and rules for haying CRP.---ID#: 190/13	708.02
We believe the CRP managed and unmanaged haying/grazing program should begin July 15th each year.---ID#: 639/13	708.03
Waste Materials Disposal	709.00
We support natural resource development within our state, including waste disposal and management .---ID#: 1808/14	709.01
Water Control Boards	710.00
We oppose the development of a Missouri River Commission based on the Red River Commission model.--ID#: 2017/15	710.01
We oppose the Red River Basin Commission having any taxing authority.---ID#: 184/15	710.02
We recommend that water management boards remain local boards as opposed to watershed boards.---ID#: 182/14	710.03
Water Policy	711.00
We support a requirement that all drains must be maintained by landowners and conservation groups so that landowners are not negatively affected.---ID#: 2003/15	711.01

We support compensation to property owners flooded by state water.---ID#: 2005/15	711.02
The process for determining navigability at the time of statehood for waters of North Dakota should be an open process that both notifies the public and allows for protests. In addition, the list of navigable waters should be easily available to the public with an explanation of what it means.---ID#: 2026/15	711.03
We recommend Devils Lake should be maintained no higher than an elevation of 1428 ft.---ID#: 1899/14	711.04
Heritage Fund monies should be used to annually compensate, at fair market cash rent values, those who lose their land to waters of the state.---ID#: 1929/14	711.05
We support the agricultural use of drain tile both as a conservation tool and as a flood mitigation tool. We oppose regulatory policy of damming or blocking drain tile without just compensation.---ID#: 1549/14	711.06
We call on the state of North Dakota to reclaim our waters where federal wildlife refuges have illegally restricted access to our waters, such as is occurring at Lake Alice and Lake Audubon wildlife refuges, among others. Though the federal government may own the land under the lake, the lake itself belongs to the people of North Dakota and the federal government has no right to restrict its use.---ID#: 1905/14	711.07
We oppose any attempt to diminish agriculture and livestock's priority ranking for the waters of the state under the jurisdiction of the State Water Commission.---ID#: 993/13	711.08

The North Dakota Farm Bureau opposes the reallocation of water resources in the state of North Dakota by the United States Army Corp of Engineers.---ID#: 1702/13 711.09

We oppose the Surplus Reallocation Study by the United States Army Corp of Engineers concerning the Missouri River Basin.---ID#: 1755/13 711.10

Water Projects 712.00

We resolve action that would provide basin-wide flood protection.---ID#: 1948/15 712.01

The North Dakota legislature must require a federal construction cost-share appropriation for the Fargo Diversion project, before matching state funds are distributed.---ID#: 1979/15 712.02

We support flood control measures being taken to help protect Fargo from spring flooding, provided there are no negative impacts to upstream and downstream property owners.---ID#: 1434/14 712.03

NDFB supports water distribution projects for agricultural, residential, and municipal uses in North Dakota, such as Northwest Area Water Supply and the Southwest Pipeline, and will work to ensure that funds raised for these projects are used for such specific purpose, whether they are local, state or federal funds.---ID#: 1777/13 712.04

We oppose funding for any diversion proposal that includes a dam and reservoir on the Red River South of Fargo.---ID#: 1784/13 712.05

Devils Lake Basin

We believe Devils Lake needs to have a gravity flow outlet, and that people affected by lake-type flooding should not have fewer options and rights to protect their property as compared to river floods.---ID#: 1904/14 712.06

Weed Control 713.00

Land controlled by government agencies must control noxious weeds to the same standards as under CRP contracts.---ID#: 1614/15 713.01

We believe it should be illegal to buy, sell, transport or transplant seeds or plants that are considered noxious weeds for placement in flower gardens or decorative displays in both rural and urban settings.---ID#: 1205/14 713.02

We support the compliance of noxious weed control by all entities that manage or own property and support giving weed boards the authority to control noxious weeds. Any fines collected should go to the weed board for further monitoring and control as provided by state statute.---ID#: 1548/14 713.03

We support the concept of local control of noxious weeds through county weed boards and township officials and recommend noxious weed laws to be enforced and support stiffer penalties for those who make no effort to control noxious weeds in a timely manner on land they own or control, including parks, railroads, state and federal lands, all roadways and wildlife refuges. If local officials are unable or unwilling to enforce said laws, the North Dakota Ag Commissioner shall be charged to enforce said laws.---ID#: 1019/13 713.04

Wetlands 714.00

We support an acre for an acre wetland mitigation process.---ID#: 1952/15 714.01

We support a mediation program concerning nuisance wetlands in North Dakota.---ID#: 1957/15	714.02
We support property owners' rights to drain their own property into a natural wetland.---ID#: 1576/15	714.03
We support fewer restrictions on water draining when it affects roads and farmsteads.---ID#: 1629/15	714.04
We propose that all farmable land be exempt from wetlands designation and be eligible for drainage.---ID#: 1131/14	714.05
We believe it should be easier to mitigate a wetland.---ID#: 1183/14	714.06
We believe landowners should have the right to consolidate wetlands on their own property.---ID#: 152/13	714.07
We believe that wetland determination appeals should not be subject to a specific time frame and be allowed at any time at the discretion of the landowner.---ID#: 1713/13	714.08
Wildlife Management	715.00
We support eliminating the practice of using highway right-of-ways for water retention or wildlife habitat.---ID#: 1817/14	715.01
We oppose the reintroduction of black-footed ferrets in North Dakota.---ID#: 1169/14	715.02
We support a balanced approach to education, including public school classes and advertising, that shows the positive and negative effects of wildlife on agriculture.---ID#: 1881/14	715.03

We oppose listing the sage grouse as an endangered species.---ID#: 1910/14 715.04

Endangered Species

We oppose legislation to restrict farming and ranching in favor of threatened and/or endangered species.---ID#: 1998/15 715.05

We strongly oppose any new additions to the threatened or endangered species list.---ID#: 2013/15 715.06

We support the elimination of the Dakota Skipper off the threatened species list.---ID#: 2018/15 715.07

We strongly oppose any efforts to add prairie dogs to the threatened or endangered species list.---ID#: 956/15 715.08

Wildlife Property 716.00

We request that all funding for U.S. Fish and Wildlife easements be eliminated.---ID#: 1744/13 716.01

Section 800 - Property Rights

Mineral Rights 801.00

Surface acres should be leased by energy and mineral companies through negotiations for activities in all forms of energy and mineral development. Options for easements should not be signed until PSC citing process is complete.---ID#: 2015/15 801.01

We urge NDFB to push for a law that would require mineral right owners to claim their mineral rights in the county they own within five years of passage of the law or the mineral rights would automatically transfer to the current land owner.---ID#: 1827/14 801.02

We urge the North Dakota Legislature to enact annual compensation and just surface damage compensation laws to help mitigate the cost of use and/or destruction to the surface owners of real property from energy and mineral development for as long as the property is affected.---ID#: 1908/14 801.03

We are opposed to financial institutions severing mineral rights on repossessed land.---ID#: 127/13 801.04

We support a more simplified process for surface owners to claim abandoned mineral acres.---ID#: 1778/13 801.05

No government entity should be allowed to acquire and/or hold title to mineral rights when land is transferred from one entity or individual to another.---ID#: 1786/13 801.06

Private Property 802.00

We believe one of the duties of government is to protect private property, especially from unauthorized surveillance invasion and interference by government itself. To further this objective, NDFB supports limiting the regulation of private property and protecting private property and identifying the costs of regulation of private property.---ID#: 2032/15 802.01

We should continue to work through all channels toward the end result of considering all lands as posted and closed to public access unless the landowner grants permission.---ID#: 542/15 802.02

We believe that all private property should be considered "Posted - No Trespassing" even if signs or other notices are not in existence, unless otherwise designated. Trespassing laws shall be enforced and all penalties stiffened.---ID#: 160/14 802.03

We believe that property owners should not be legally responsible for any natural or man-made obstacle or situation that may cause personal injury or property damage to persons using their property.---ID#: 1151/14	802.04
We oppose the federal designation of the Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail crossing private property in North Dakota.--ID#: 1458/14	802.05
We oppose using any federal, state or local funds for any National Heritage Area or any project that would promote or enhance any National Heritage Area.---ID#: 1860/14	802.06
We oppose the allocation of any additional state funds being given to groups/organizations for the purpose of conservation projects, conservation easements and/or land acquisitions.---ID#: 1886/14	802.07
We support the protection of private property rights against government takings by any agency, department or organization.---ID#: 1383/13	802.08
Due to governmental agencies' interest in river corridor preservation, we support the protection of private property rights of landowners against government takings or restrictive usage of such properties.---ID#: 1413/13	802.09
Private surface owners shall be granted the same surface use requirements as the state land department mandates for state land. Setback for drilling production operations should be increased from 500 feet to 1280 feet to protect the value of farm and ranch homes.---ID#: 1783/13	802.10

Section 900 - Energy

Oil and Natural Resource Revenue 901.00

We believe that 25 percent of the income from oil tax revenue should be distributed to the counties most adversely affected by oil exploration and production to be targeted for road maintenance, infrastructure, and education.---ID#: 1869/14 901.01

Oil, Gas and Coal Production 902.00

We support new construction of all pipeline in and out of state, such as, Keystone pipeline and other construction projects that would help transport liquids and or gas in or out of the state.---ID#: 1973/15 902.01

We support the use of some of the Energy Infrastructure and Impact Grants for the training of local fire and rescue crews in industrial emergency response.---ID#: 1599/15 902.02

We support transmission pipelines for our growing oil industry.---ID#: 1731/13 902.03

Renewable Energy 903.00

We oppose severing wind or water rights from surface rights of the land.---ID#: 1750/13 903.01

Section 1000 - Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous 1001.00

We support expanding the farm business management education program.---ID#: 1862/14 1001.01

We support access to high-speed broadband services for rural areas and to continue support for Rural Utilities Service (RUS) that provides funding for loans and grants of increased broadband capacity and telecommunication services.---ID#: 1734/13 1001.02

We believe that mandates, rules, laws, and regulations passed by Congress should also be followed by members of Congress.---ID#: 1741/13	1001.03
We request more recording stations for precipitation in every county in the state to achieve a more accurate assessment of precipitation for use in crop disaster declarations.---ID#: 1745/13	1001.04
We support the state of North Dakota opting out of daylight savings time.---ID#: 1756/13	1001.05
We support H2A Labor Reform to include guest workers to be eligible for a twelve month renewable visa that is easily transferable between farms. We support initiatives to reduce the bureaucratic complexity of the program as well as revisiting the base wage rates required in relation to market levels specific to agricultural occupations.---ID#: 1768/13	1001.06

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