



SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

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Policy and Influence

Over the recent months SDDP has had several opportunities to engage with and present key issues facing dairy farmers and the industry. Critical messages have been consistent in these meetings with focus on the need for a “year around” Guest Worker bill, Trade and the impact of tariffs, and communicating the intense challenges facing producers with the ag economy.

Meetings and action has included:

August: Meeting directly with Representative and Governor candidate Kristi Noem. Chair Post emphasized messaging above, and included leadership needed in South Dakota from top down to keep our dairy industry growing.

September: Meeting with House of Representative candidate Dusty Johnson in conjunction with other ag associations in an informational meeting coordinated by Farm Bureau. Chair Post and Dairy Producer Randy Gross again provided information on why the issues above are so critical for SD Dairy.

H.R. 6417—SDDP submitted request to Representative Noem to become a co-sponsor which she acted on in July. SDDP continues to join with ADC and NMPF as they communicate directly with Legislators on the need for this bill.

SDDP is committed to opportunities regardless of Party affiliation and working on setting up other meetings with candidates and sitting officials.

Earlier this year, SDDP Chair Post participated in a Washington DC Fly in with representatives from several neighboring state trade associations. Plans are to repeat this opportunity to meet directly with lawmakers in 2019.





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SD Dairy Ambassadors

Five SDSU students were named South Dakota Dairy Ambassadors earlier this year through a program implemented by Midwest Dairy. These individuals (and Coach Tracey Erickson) played a critical role in promoting dairy throughout the region and continue their efforts as school has resumed in the fall. The Ambassadors had opportunities to enhance public awareness at many events such as Central Plains Dairy Expo, the Sioux Empire and State Fair, in the classroom, and at several on farm events. They also utilized social media to showcase their activities and heighten awareness through their SD Dairy Ambassadors Facebook page.....<https://www.facebook.com/South-Dakota-Dairy-Ambassadors-1800749163559220/>



South Dakota Dairy Ambassadors: Dennisen Nelson, Katelyn Groetsch, Jenna Van Wyk, Angel Kasper, and Sanne de Bruijn helped amplify a positive dairy message throughout the region and developed leadership skills to become key influencers for the future.

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