



## SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

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## SDDP joins Ag and non-Ag Groups to Oppose Sioux Falls Ballot Initiative—Op-Ed to be Released:

### Vote No on Zoning Ordinance Change

To the Editor,

As a coalition of business and agricultural organizations, we believe it is vitally important to protect opportunities for the next generation of Sioux Falls residents, as well as the future of farmers and ranchers in South Dakota. That's why when citizens head to the ballot box this November, we're encouraging a no vote on the proposed amendment to Chapter 160 of the city's zoning ordinances.

Voters will choose between maintaining Sioux Falls and South Dakota as a premier opportunity for the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs, or closing the door on those who wish to build a future here.

The proposed change sets a dangerous precedent by seeking to override the local zoning process. Existing procedures allow for local control and public input in establishing zoning ordinances, which set the playing rules for all would-be developments. These policies provide a framework for successful development with reasonable, responsible management and careful oversight. The proposed amendment undermines that process.

If you're borrowing millions of dollars to bring a new business to our community, you need to know that your investment will not be wasted. We believe the effort to alter Sioux Falls' city ordinances undercuts that certainty by changing the rules in the middle of the game.

This proposal will also hinder efforts to support locally grown and sourced food, which many recognize as important to food access and security. If adopted, this ordinance would, for example, prohibit a new Mom & Pop butcher shop from opening anywhere within Sioux Falls. Such a blanket prohibition seems contrary to many of the local food efforts made in recent years.

We encourage you to vote no on the proposed amendment to Sioux Falls' zoning ordinances.

Ag United for South Dakota  
East River Electric Power Cooperative  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives  
South Dakota Cattlemen's Association  
South Dakota Corn Growers Association  
South Dakota Dairy Producers  
South Dakota Farm Bureau  
South Dakota Municipal League  
South Dakota Pork Producers Council  
South Dakota Poultry Industries Association  
South Dakota Retailers Association  
South Dakota Soybean Association  
South Dakota Stockgrowers Association  
South Dakota Trucking Association



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### Dairy Promotion Center Stage at South Dakota Events:



South Dakota's many celebrations of agriculture provide ample opportunities to position and promote the dairy industry to state and federal officials. While enjoying malts or ice cream, the visits always include discussion with officials on critical issues for dairy farmers and the industry such as labor concerns, zoning and permitting issues, and the license to operate. While South Dakota is a great place to do business and open for business, there are still pressing issues facing the industry. Maintaining the status of South Dakota being a "dairy destination" is a key priority for SDDP. Above, Representative Dusty Johnson, Senator's Rounds and Thune, as well as South Dakota's Secretary of DANR Hunter Roberts and staff all make time to listen to concerns as well as the positive momentum the dairy industry has in the state.



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### SDDP Continues to Monitor FMMO Reform Discussions:

Fresh out of the NMPF State Summit where FMMO modernization was a key topic, SDDP has also been invited to participate in an American Farm Bureau forum where AFB will present information on their approach to addressing concerns with the order and potential recommendations for updating. The meeting will take place in mid-October and SDDP feels it is important to have a seat at the table to be up to speed on any discussions regarding the FMMO. NMPF indicated they will be the organization that will take proposals forward to USDA; however, it will be interesting to see if or how AFB recommendations align with recommendations already public from NMPF.

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