

Our Mission:

Working to advance the interests of South Dakota's Cattlemen through the representation and promotion of the beef industry.

Working for YOU!

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SDCCA represents the **interests of cattlemen** and provides **influence with decision makers** by valuing honesty and integrity and speaking with a unified voice to ensure **long-term profitability for South Dakota's beef producers**.

Here are a few of the issues SDCCA has been actively monitoring:

Activists: Well-funded animal rights and environmental activist groups persistently oppose the continuation of animal agriculture. SDCCA works proactively with our members and other advocacy groups to ensure your business is perceived in a positive light by the media and policy-makers locally, statewide, and nationally. We successfully defeated a measure in the state Legislature that would have subjected cattlemen to a stringent definition of animal torture which was proposed by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), an activist group with a stated mission of ending animal agriculture in our country.

Tax Relief: Long-standing SDCCA policy advocates for Death Tax relief. In a win for South Dakota's cattlemen, SDCCA worked with Senator Thune for passage of a budget amendment that will increase exemption amounts for the Death Tax. Likewise we've worked with the entire delegation to ensure your livestock operation won't be subjected to a "cow tax" for Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Environment: SDCCA supports regulatory policies based on sound science and we continually work to ensure your business isn't threatened by burdensome environmental regulations. We continue work with NCBA to monitor proposals for "Climate Change" legislation (formerly referred to as global warming) and we'll strive to ensure agriculture is included as part of the solution, not considered part of the problem.

This month, we also took advantage of Earth Day celebrations to remind the public that cattlemen are "everyday environmentalists" who care for our animals and the natural resources entrusted to our stewardship.

SDCCA issues and comments can be found on our website at www.sd cattlemen.org.

Our Vision:

SDCCA will be South Dakota's premier beef organization that consumers and producers rely on for truth and integrity in the beef industry while promoting a healthy environment.



**National Cattlemen's
Beef Association**

April, 2009

Our Mission:

Working to increase profit opportunities for the cattle and beef industry by enhancing the business climate and building consumer demand.

Working for YOU!

Since its inception in 1898, NCBA has been the primary marketing and trade association for America's one million cattle ranchers. NCBA works for producers in all 50 states through a network of individual producers and state and breed affiliates. Ninety percent of NCBA's 27,000 individual members are cow/calf producers, stockers and feeders. Your NCBA is in the **court of public opinion** and the **court of public policy every day** working on **all the issues** that affect your business and **opportunity for profitability**. Here are a few of the issues NCBA has addressed this year:

Horse Processing: H.R. 503—the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2009— was re-introduced in the 111th Congress. Under H.R. 503 anyone who knowingly possesses, ships, transports, purchases, sells, delivers or receives a horse with the intent of processing that horse for human consumption would be criminally prosecuted in a federal court. This could result in a fine and/or federal imprisonment for up to three years. While there is no federal ban on the processing of horses, state laws have closed all three processing plants, negatively impacting horse markets and causing a dramatic increase in the neglect of horses nationwide. NCBA asks for your help in the continued fight against this legislation. Log on to www.capwiz.com/beefusa to send a letter to your member of Congress opposing this bill.

Death Tax: Preserving your ability to pass your operation on to your children and grandchildren remains a top issue for NCBA. At the end of March, the Senate debated the FY 2010 Budget Resolution. Both the Senate and House versions will be sent to conference committee, where details will be ironed out before the bill is sent to the President. One of the amendments supported by NCBA will increase the exemptions for death tax to \$5 million per individual (\$10 million per couple). Currently, the death tax will be fully repealed in 2010. But following 2010, if no action is taken by Congress, in 2011 the death tax reverts to pre-2001 levels—meaning that any estate valued at \$1 million or more will be taxed at a 55% rate.

Climate Change: Climate change continues to be a buzz word around Washington, D.C. Several members of Congress have indicated interest in legislation that would address climate change. Currently, NCBA supports Senate Bill 527, sponsored by Senators John Thune (SD) and Charles Schumer (NY), which strives to stop the EPA from regulating livestock operations under the Clean Air Act. If you would like to ask your Senators to co-sponsor this important piece of legislation, please visit www.capwiz.com/beefusa.

NCBA continues to work as your voice in Washington, D.C. To contact Congress on these and other issues that are important to U.S. cattle producers, visit <http://capwiz.com/beefusa>.

Did you know?

- ◆ For more information about how NCBA Works for You in DC, visit us online at <http://hill.beef.org>.
- ◆ NCBA has two distinct divisions: The Policy Division influences public policy and provides producer education, and the Federation of State Beef Councils oversees beef promotion, research, consumer information and related activities funded by voluntary investments from state beef councils through their portion of the beef checkoff.

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