

SDACC POLICY STATEMENTS

1. SDACC supports and endorses changes in state law that provides local governmental bodies the authority to create and enforce ordinances that act as an immediate deterrent against contamination of public groundwater resources. *(1991, amended 2018)*
2. SDACC will continue to support the South Dakota Noxious Weed Law that prevents or limits the growth of all noxious weeds, including on public lands. In addition, it encourages cooperation between Weed and Pest agencies at all levels, including NRCS, and recommends NRCS initiate a cost share program to provide for chemicals for control of noxious weeds throughout the state of South Dakota. *(1991, amended 2018)*
3. SDACC supports the inclusion of Counties in the Federal Land planning process to protect from economic damage, and that sufficient input from all potential impacted parties is allowed. In addition, when any personal or private property is taken for the use of any level of Government, that a Takings Implication Assessment (TIA), be completed prior to the takings and injured parties be fairly and expeditiously compensated. *(1991, amended 2018)*
4. SDACC supports federal policy that reduces conflict between tribal, state and local governmental entities, and encourages Congress to establish an ongoing, federal, non-judicial conflict resolution procedure to resolve intergovernmental disputes. *(1991, amended 2018, amended 2024)*
5. SDACC goes on record as opposing the combining of any counties within the state of South Dakota by state mandate. *(1991)*
6. SDACC encourages the South Dakota legislature to examine the costs of problems of alcohol, drug, gambling, and other addictions and provide state funding and other assistance to assist counties with jails, law enforcement and detox centers and other matters to address the addiction-related issues. *(1994, amended 2024)*
7. SDACC opposes any limitations or restrictions on the powers of county governments to develop or implement land use regulations such as zoning and will actively and vigorously work to protect counties' right to appeal any adverse rulings as they pertain to counties' zoning ordinances. *(1997, amended 2018)*
8. SDACC continues to support planning & zoning legislation that will encourage uniformity between county and municipal planning and zoning procedures and reduce ambiguities within the adoption process, enabling counties to more effectively adopt and administer their comprehensive plan, and zoning regulations. *(1998, amended 2018)*
9. SDACC supports the State increasing its share of the costs for animal damage control and opposes any legislation that would increase the assessment per head for cattle or sheep or any other changes in county assessment factors that would increase or substantially shift the annual assessments currently being paid by the individual counties for funding animal damage control, including an assessment based on land area. *(2001, amended 2024)*
10. SDACC supports the right of each county to make their own decisions on Right of Way issues (ROW) as they deem necessary. *(2001, amended 2018)*

11. SDACC supports funding initiatives to maintain, and as necessary, upgrade, the statewide emergency radio system. *(2001, amended 2018, amended 2024)*
12. SDACC supports efforts that provide for stable funding of PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Points) appropriate taxation of wired and wireless telecommunications, and other future measures ensuring a reliable and responsive 911 system. *(1999, amended 2018, amended 2024, amended 2025)*
13. SDACC supports legislation to provide additional revenue sources, such as sales tax, for constructing, maintaining and improving county facilities that hold county fairs, achievement days, livestock shows and similar events. *(2002, amended 2025)*
14. SDACC supports elimination of the requirement that county auditors must levy an additional tax levy each year for the school portion of any taxes that were abated by county commissioners during the previous tax year, as the original tax was determined to be illegal or not collectible in some manner in order to be abated. *(2002)*
15. SDACC opposes any legislation that would further restrict counties' allowable un-obligated cash balances or reserves or that would require the preparation of detailed financial statements and cash balances at times other than the end of a county's fiscal year. *(2003)*
16. SDACC supports a county sales and use tax to be implemented in the same manner as the municipal taxes. *(2003, amended 2025)*
17. SDACC supports any effort to repeal the property tax cap and opposes any caps to revenue or valuation limiting the ability of counties to provide services. *(2004, amended 2025)*
18. SDACC supports the state's agricultural industry's efforts to meet the challenges and demands of an ever-changing marketplace. *(2004)*
19. SDACC supports the State of South Dakota funding initiatives to mitigate emerald ash borer and other infestations. *(2018, amended 2025)*
20. SDACC supports full state funding for human service agency transportation to offset the costs to local public and non-profit transportation systems. *(2018, amended 2025)*
21. SDACC supports additional state funding for education, intervention, and treatment programs to prevent and deter drug, alcohol, gaming, and other abuse or addiction. *(2018, amended 2019, amended 2025)*
22. SDACC supports affordable housing programs to provide opportunities for individuals and families to access safe, attainably priced dwellings. *(2018, amended 2025)*
23. SDACC supports additional state funding for mental health services. *(2019, amended 2024, amended 2025)*
24. SDACC supports the centralization of the administration and expense of indigent legal representation services in a system administered by the South Dakota Commission in Indigent Legal Services and funded by the State of South Dakota to ensure the effective assistance of counsel where there is a right to counsel under state or federal law. *(2024)*

25. SDACC supports legislation for additional state funding and other support for veteran service officers in South Dakota. (2024)
26. SDACC requests the legislature follow the intent of SDCL § 6-15-1 in the limitation of unfunded mandates placed on counties. (2024)
27. The SDACC, believing in local control, supports efforts wherein local issues are decided at the local level. (2024)
28. SDACC supports additional state funding for the prevention of domestic violence and other violent crimes. (2025)
29. SDACC supports additional state funding and support for county diversion programs for juvenile and adult offenders. (2025)
30. The SDACC supports and encourages all individuals hired as a County Veteran Service Officer to complete the required online training and achieve certification with the federal Department of Veterans Affairs to become an accredited VA Representative who has access to the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS). (2025)
31. The SDACC supports and encourages the collaboration and regionalization of Veterans Service Officers amongst multiple Counties to achieve the highest level of effectiveness and service to our valued South Dakota veterans. (2025)
32. The SDACC supports Veterans Service Officers as employees of the Counties being employed at the will of the County while working collaboratively with the State and Federal Departments of Veterans Affairs. (2025)
33. The SDACC encourages efforts to remove existing obstacles to collaborative and regionalization efforts amongst SD Counties. (2025)
34. The SDACC supports and encourages all SD Counties to proactively decrease the different types of software systems being used for the assessment and equalization of real property to achieve improved functionality, increased efficiencies and more uniform application of state laws. (2025)
35. The SDACC requests the state fully fund the costs of parolees, including without limitation, incarceration, medical, and legal fees. (2025)
36. The SDACC supports revisions of real estate transfer fees. (2025)