Plan for farming lawsuit radio ads

30 second radio ad to air during Joel Heitkamp show (statewide) for 10 days, January 11 to January January 24 (6 ads per day)

"Did you know that the North Dakota Farm Bureau brought a lawsuit against the state that will harm family farms and bring in large corporate factory farms? Did you know that if you have NoDak Mutual Insurance you are a member of the Farm Bureau and you are part of the lawsuit? The Farm Bureau's success would overthrow North Dakota's family farm law in court, even after every North Dakota county voted to reject corporate farms and support family farms. The Farm Bureau just doesn't get it. To take action and learn more, visit [drcinfo.org](http://drcinfo.org" \t "_blank) or call 224-8587.

We will ask our members to call into Joel’s show. Possibly ask Joel to do a story and have a member on.

The following will be on DRC’s website:

Call the North Dakota Farm Bureau and urge them to stop their attack on democracy and family farms! Ask them to drop their lawsuit and to work with family farmers and ranchers to grow animal agriculture in a sustainable way. The Farm Bureau and their corporate allies are refusing to accept the will of North Dakotans and the future of family farms.

Fargo office: 701-298-2200

Bismarck office: 701-224-0330

or write to them at

North Dakota Farm Bureau

1101 1st Ave. N.,  
Fargo, ND 58102

North Dakota Farm Bureau

4900 Ottawa Street,  
Bismarck, ND 58503

What will we lose if North Dakota’s 84-year old family farming law goes away?

-include some short points on how the anti-corporate farming law is important

Background on the anti-corporate farming law, SB 2351, referral petition drive, ballot measure vote, and the Farm Bureau’s lawsuit challenge:

North Dakota’s anti-corporate farming law has been in place since a 1932 initiated measure. In the 2015 legislative session, SB 2351 was passed (include link to the vote tally) and signed into law by Governor Dalrymple. SB 2351 would have allowed nonfamily corporations to own and operate dairy and swine farms in North Dakota. The North Dakota Farmer’s Union led an effort to put SB 2351 on the ballot as a referendum. Twenty thousand signatures were gathered with the help of allies including Dakota Resource Council and SB 2351 was put on the ballot as Measure 1. Over the next several months, the North Dakota Farmer’s Union, North Dakota AFL-CIO, and DRC worked together to educate and mobilize voters to turn out and vote no on Measure 1. On June 14, 2016 Measure 1 and corporate farming were rejected 75.73% to 24.27%.

REFERRED MEASURE NO. 1

(Senate Bill No. 2351, 2015 North Dakota Session Laws, Ch. 84)

Senate Bill No. 2351, passed by the 2015 Legislative Assembly, would allow the ownership or leasing of up to 640 acres of land for the operation of a dairy farm or swine production facility by a domestic corporation or limited liability company. Senate Bill 2351 would also require the agriculture commissioner to develop reporting and monitoring rules to ensure compliance.

YES – I approve Senate Bill 2351 summarized above.

NO – I reject Senate Bill 2351 summarized above.

Results of Measure 1 (June 14, 2016)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| County | Yes | No | TOTALS | %Yes | %No |
| Adams | 153 | 550 | 703 | 22% | 78% |
| Barnes | 558 | 2029 | 2587 | 22% | 78% |
| Benson | 202 | 702 | 904 | 22% | 78% |
| Billings | 77 | 269 | 346 | 22% | 78% |
| Bottineau | 443 | 1175 | 1618 | 27% | 73% |
| Bowman | 257 | 944 | 1201 | 21% | 79% |
| Burke | 112 | 378 | 490 | 23% | 77% |
| Burleigh | 4624 | 12686 | 17310 | 27% | 73% |
| Cass | 6514 | 19569 | 26083 | 25% | 75% |
| Cavalier | 186 | 1022 | 1208 | 15% | 85% |
| Dickey | 228 | 677 | 905 | 25% | 75% |
| Divide | 102 | 435 | 537 | 19% | 81% |
| Dunn | 182 | 775 | 957 | 19% | 81% |
| Eddy | 113 | 520 | 633 | 18% | 82% |
| Emmons | 183 | 938 | 1121 | 16% | 84% |
| Foster | 243 | 781 | 1024 | 24% | 76% |
| Golden Valley | 107 | 302 | 409 | 26% | 74% |
| Grand Forks | 2872 | 7599 | 10471 | 27% | 73% |
| Grant | 137 | 740 | 877 | 16% | 84% |
| Griggs | 167 | 584 | 751 | 22% | 78% |
| Hettinger | 148 | 628 | 776 | 19% | 81% |
| Kidder | 187 | 620 | 807 | 23% | 77% |
| LaMoure | 280 | 1045 | 1325 | 21% | 79% |
| Logan | 127 | 613 | 740 | 17% | 83% |
| McHenry | 313 | 1235 | 1548 | 20% | 80% |
| McIntosh | 189 | 759 | 948 | 20% | 80% |
| McKenzie | 391 | 1242 | 1633 | 24% | 76% |
| McLean | 684 | 1906 | 2590 | 26% | 74% |
| Mercer | 557 | 1707 | 2264 | 25% | 75% |
| Morton | 1351 | 4141 | 5492 | 25% | 75% |
| Mountrail | 301 | 971 | 1272 | 24% | 76% |
| Nelson | 217 | 810 | 1027 | 21% | 79% |
| Oliver | 92 | 347 | 439 | 21% | 79% |
| Pembina | 497 | 1269 | 1766 | 28% | 72% |
| Pierce | 213 | 830 | 1043 | 20% | 80% |
| Ramsey | 660 | 2061 | 2721 | 24% | 76% |
| Ransom | 193 | 925 | 1118 | 17% | 83% |
| Renville | 160 | 469 | 629 | 25% | 75% |
| Richland | 687 | 2293 | 2980 | 23% | 77% |
| Rolette | 187 | 761 | 948 | 20% | 80% |
| Sargent | 277 | 894 | 1171 | 24% | 76% |
| Sheridan | 130 | 387 | 517 | 25% | 75% |
| Sioux | 83 | 213 | 296 | 28% | 72% |
| Slope | 65 | 161 | 226 | 29% | 71% |
| Stark | 1333 | 3647 | 4980 | 27% | 73% |
| Steele | 125 | 473 | 598 | 21% | 79% |
| Stutsman | 887 | 3100 | 3987 | 22% | 78% |
| Towner | 136 | 533 | 669 | 20% | 80% |
| Traill | 458 | 1310 | 1768 | 26% | 74% |
| Walsh | 654 | 1793 | 2447 | 27% | 73% |
| Ward | 2049 | 6791 | 8840 | 23% | 77% |
| Wells | 299 | 993 | 1292 | 23% | 77% |
| Williams | 655 | 2374 | 3029 | 22% | 78% |
| TOTAL | 59839 | 186158 | 245997 | 24% | 76% |

A few weeks before the Measure 1 vote, the North Dakota Farm Bureau announced they were filing a federal lawsuit in Bismarck to challenge the entire North Dakota anti-corporate farming law. The North Dakota Farm Bureau believes the anti-corporate farming law violates the interstate commerce clause of the United States Constitution. The lawsuit was filed in United States District Court for the District of North Dakota (Bismarck).

Link to Marie’s LTE: <http://www.agweek.com/news/north-dakota/4179023-letter-nd-farm-bureau-no-friend-family-farmers>

Link to Jeri Lynn’s LTE: <http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/opinion/letters/4178624-letter-nd-farm-bureau-can-still-do-right-thing>

A Farm with no Family video series: http://drcinfo.org/familyfarms/

John Ikerd op-ed: http://www.grandforksherald.com/opinion/op-ed-columns/4043310-john-ikerd-family-farms-yes-corporate-agriculture-no

Fred K. op-ed: http://hpr1.com/index.php/opinion/last-word/family-farms-are-the-future-of-agriculture/

Join DRC to support family farms: link to join

Sign up for our emails: link to sign up for emails

Like us on Facebook: link to like on facebook

Links to other sources of information on corporate agriculture and factory farming….