

Bill Summaries

SB 2037 – High-level nuclear waste disposal. This bill prohibits the placement, storage, exploration, testing, or disposal of high-level radioactive waste within the exterior boundaries of North Dakota. If this provision is superseded by federal law, the remaining provisions of this chapter continue to apply. DRC approved this bill.

SB 2044 – Tampering with critical infrastructure. This is model legislation pulled directly from ALEC (American Legislative exchange Council.) DRC is opposed to this bill. First, if tested, we believe this law will be ruled as unconstitutional. This law uses vague terms such as “Interfering”, “inhibiting”, “impeding” and it removes intent from the law making accidental whereby an individual that accidentally harms critical infrastructure could be subject to this law.

SB 2148 – Anti-corruption. DRC supported the bill as originally written which was to implement Article XIV of the Constitution as approved by Measure 1’s passing at the 2016 election. The final bill created a study regarding the implementation and requirements of Article XIV of the Constitution. We supported this final version in the hopes that implementation of Article XIV will be appropriate.

SB 2332 – DRC brought this bill which was written by Senator Tim Mathern. This bill’s intent was to reduce flaring and allow mineral owners to be compensated for flared gas. It was reduced to a study which did not pass.

SB 2344 – Pore space bill. DRC opposed this bill which took away surface owner right’s regarding their pore space. Among other things, this law removes a surface owner’s right to sue for trespass or loss of use.

SB 2345 – Animal feeding operations. This bill was a Farm Bureau bill that removes some zoning control from township and county boards including setbacks and odor control.

HB 1200 – This bill prohibits local ordinances that ban of single use packaging including plastic bags and straws. DRC opposed this bill.

HB1521 – DRC was against this bill which implements Article XIV in a way that does not agree with the original intent of the amendment.

SCR 4001 – Resolution requiring an initiated constitutional measure approved by voters to be approved by the subsequent legislative assembly. If not approved by

Bill Summaries

the legislature will be placed on the ballot again and if approved by the voters again, it will become effective. This resolution also requires constitutional amendments only come before voters at general elections. This resolution will come before voters in 2020 so look for it and vote "NO".