

Testimony SB2368

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Testimony in Support for SB2368

To the Senate Ag and Veterans Committee,

Mr Chairman,

Dakota Resource Council has long supported Rangeland Management and this program would be a sensible way to allow ranchers to manage their property and cover expenses. We agree with the provisions that the Soil Conservation districts need to approve of these plans. Making sure that ranchers have access to these programs is essential because this will allow them to overcome any cost barriers that may be in their way. The funding mechanism is generous and there are many oversights to make sure that this is being used properly. This is good government spending.

We would also like to make this absolutely clear. We would receive no funds from this project, nor would we attempt to secure any funds in this project. In the past we have been accused of trying to divert funding from the state to our organization and that is simply not true. Our organization has passed resolutions in our annual meeting that we do not take state or federal dollars to avoid being in service to any political entity. We simply support programs that would make our grazing more efficient and our soils more healthy. Many of our members would benefit from this program by having access to training and grants for their operation.

Thank you for your Consideration and we urge a DO PASS