

2009 SENATE AGRICULTURE

SCR 4018

2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4018

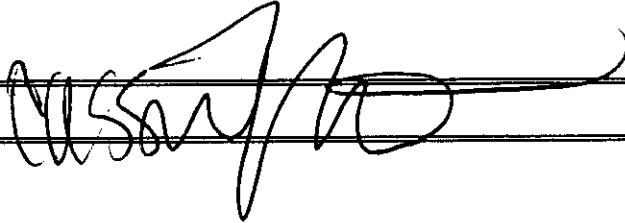
Senate Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 12, 2009

Recorder Job Number: 9362

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Sen. Flakoll opened the hearing on SCR 4018, a resolution recognizing the components of sustainable agriculture in this state. All members (7) were present.

Sen. Wanzek, district 19, testified in favor of the bill.

Sen. Wanzek- We discussed this issue quite a bit this session with the bill that we had on it. I think that a lot of people are afraid to talk about sustainable agriculture. This is something that looking forward with population growth and demands and needs on our resources in producing food, it seems pretty obvious that it is always going to be an issue. We have a shrinking land mass per capita, we need to find more efficient ways, and there's many research studies done. In the last 50 years, population growth has almost tripled, but at the same time we have actually tripled the amount cereal grain production in the world not with more farmable acres but with new methods and technologies that have allowed us to be way more efficient and still be good stewards of other resources. I think that it is something that is going to be even more important in the next 50 years, I think that this is something worth making a statement about.

Sheyna Strommen, testified in favor of the bill on behalf of the ND stockmen's association.

See attached testimony, attachment #1.

● Testimony was also submitted in opposition to the resolution by **Woody Barth**, ND Farmer's Union.

Sen. Klein motioned for a Do Pass and was seconded by **Sen. Wanzek**, vote 7 yea 0 nay 0 absent. **Sen. Wanzek** was designated to carry the bill to the floor.

Sen. Flakoll closed the hearing.



REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 12, 2009 9:29 a.m.

Module No: SR-28-2481
Carrier: Wanzek
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4018: Agriculture Committee (Sen. Flakoll, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4018 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2009 HOUSE AGRICULTURE

SCR 4018

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4018

House Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 19, 2009

Recorder Job Number: 11283

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Senator Wanzek, Sponsor: This declares the recognition of the need for future food adequacy, the efficient use of resources, the environmental impact, and the profitability of our producers. It takes into consideration that it is paired with modern technologies and they are necessary to have a sustainable agriculture which will be able to meet the challenges of the future concern of a growing population and the increased demand for food and fiber needs. When you consider all things, it becomes apparent that we need to maintain the vigil pursuit of new technologies through research and development. This resolution is our state making a statement to acknowledge that fact. Farmers are the ones to make decisions about which processes work best on their farms. My brother and I shake our heads in amazement at the tools & production we would have only dreamed about ten years ago.

Julie Ellingson, ND Stockmen's Assn.: Gave handout. **(Written attached #1)**

Dan Wogsland, Executive Director, ND Grain Growers' Assn.: We are in support of SCR4018. This is another step in the right direction in terms of sustainability and showcasing for the world the agricultural production of the State of North Dakota.

Scott Rising, ND Soybean Growers: We also are supportive of this resolution.

Sandy Clark, ND Farm Bureau: We support SCR 4018 also.

Opposing:

Woody Barth, ND Farmers Union: (Written testimony attached #2)

We feel it is too early to label the practice of sustainability and would like further study.

Representative Holman: How do you see the definition you have in your testimony differing from the one in the bill.

Woody Barth: What we are saying is that Congress took a stab yet those definitions aren't clearly in place under USDA's rules of sustainability.

Representative Kingsbury: Do you have a fear of regulations that might come forward?

Woody Barth: Our concern is that all forms of agriculture are brought together when clearly defining sustainability.

Representative Uglem: I think the purpose of the resolution is to get the word to Washington that using modern technology and management is sustainable. Whereas a lot of people from larger cities think organic is sustainable. This would help define sustainable.

Woody Barth: I don't think there is agreement amongst anybody of what is sustainable. Understanding what the cost structures are and that the yields are greater too.

Representative Boe: You wouldn't support this as it is written. How would you write it to make you more comfortable?

Woody Barth: I think you alluded to the fact that these are some components. Modern technologies have increased production. Not enough research has been done. We need to bring all forms together. Which groups and which practices to define sustainable should be part of this resolution before it is forwarded on to the Secretary of Agriculture and our Congressional delegation.

Supporting:

Roger Harstad, Mountrail County Farmer, Stanley: In my farming practice I've used a lot of biotechnology. I see the advantages for the soil and environment. I know there are the chemicals on the other side. We were burning up fossil fuels tilling the ground and actually degrading the soil to where it wouldn't hold moisture and erode. The increase in yields and extra benefit to the soil is good reason to get on board with these programs.

Vice Chairman Brandenburg: So you would like to see this resolution sent to Washington so we could tell them what a good thing we are doing in North Dakota.

Roger Harstad: As a farmer, yes.

Chairman Johnson: Closed the hearing.

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4018

House Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 19, 2009 (**Committee Work**)

Recorder Job Number: 11288

Committee Clerk Signature

R. Max Kuehl

Minutes:

Representative Boe: I was looking at SCR 4019 and we are asking the federal government to examine the impacts. In SCR 4018 we are telling them what to do. I was wondering if we should soften the language.

Chairman Johnson: If you want to look at amendments, we can work on this tomorrow morning.

Representative Boe: I would like to talk to the sponsor.

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4018

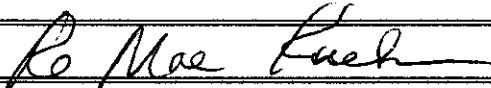
House Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 20, 2009 (**Committee Work**)

Recorder Job Number: 11341

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Representative Boe: I talked to Anita Thomas and received the amendments to soften it a little bit. I also talked to Senator Wanzek. He said if we could soften it, that would be alright. We tried to mirror SCR 4019. SCR 4019 says "when you are coming up with your decisions, please consider these also." This amendment says that if we are going to look at sustainability that we want to look at all aspects. Take everybody into consideration.

Representative Holman: Moved the amendment

Vice Chairman Brandenburg: Seconded it.

Voice vote taken. Passed.

Representative Froelich: Moved Do Pass as amended.

Representative Vig: Seconded.

A Roll Call vote was taken. **Yes: 12, No: 0, Absent: 1**, (Representative Schatz).

Representative Boe will carry the bill.

VR
3/20/09

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4018

Page 1, line 1, replace "components of" with "need for viable and" and replace "agriculture" with "agricultural practices"

Page 1, replace lines 6 through 21 with:

"WHEREAS, in order to accommodate the food needs of a growing world population, it will be important that agricultural producers having operations of all sizes and types explore ways to improve their management practices and focus on using inputs and resources in the most effective and efficient ways possible; and

WHEREAS, in order for present-day agricultural producers to leave a legacy of rich, fertile, and productive land to future generations, they should be encouraged to consider incorporating, in their production practices, both the latest scientific research findings and emerging technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly recognizes that agricultural producers of all sizes and types should be encouraged to pursue effective and efficient practices, in order to ensure that agriculture remains viable and sustainable for multiple generations yet to come; and"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3/20/09

Roll Call Vote #: _____

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 4018

House Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 90369.0101

Action Taken Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended

Motion Made By Rep. Holman Seconded By Rep. Brandenburg

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Dennis Johnson, Chair			Tracy Boe		
Mike Brandenburg, Vice Chair			Rod Froelich		
Wesley R. Belter			Richard Holman		
Joyce M. Kingsbury			Phillip Mueller		
David S. Rust			Benjamin A. Vig		
Mike Schatz					
Gerry Uglem					
John D. Wall					

*Vote
No
pass*

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Bill Carrier _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*Soften language
look at all aspects*

Date: 3/20/09

Roll Call Vote #: _____

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 4018

House Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 93069.0101

Action Taken Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended

Motion Made By Rep. Froelich Seconded By Rep. Vig

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Dennis Johnson, Chair	✓		Tracy Boe	✓	
Mike Brandenburg, Vice Chair	✓		Rod Froelich	✓	
Wesley R. Belter	✓		Richard Holman	✓	
Joyce M. Kingsbury	✓		Phillip Mueller	✓	
David S. Rust	✓		Benjamin A. Vig	✓	
Mike Schatz	AB				
Gerry Uglem	✓				
John D. Wall	✓				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 1

Bill Carrier Rep. Boe

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4018: Agriculture Committee (Rep. D. Johnson, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4018 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, replace "components of" with "need for viable and" and replace "agriculture" with "agricultural practices"

Page 1, replace lines 6 through 21 with:

"WHEREAS, in order to accommodate the food needs of a growing world population, it will be important that agricultural producers having operations of all sizes and types explore ways to improve their management practices and focus on using inputs and resources in the most effective and efficient ways possible; and

WHEREAS, in order for present-day agricultural producers to leave a legacy of rich, fertile, and productive land to future generations, they should be encouraged to consider incorporating, in their production practices, both the latest scientific research findings and emerging technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly recognizes that agricultural producers of all sizes and types should be encouraged to pursue effective and efficient practices, in order to ensure that agriculture remains viable and sustainable for multiple generations yet to come; and"

Renumber accordingly

2009 SENATE AGRICULTURE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SCR 4018

2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 4018

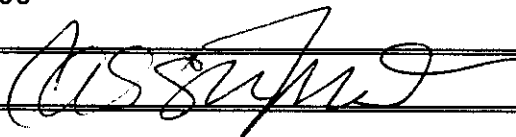
Senate Agriculture Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: April 16, 2009

Recorder Job Number: 11900

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Sen. Wanzek opened the conference committee on SCR 4018, senate members **Sen. Miller, Taylor** and house members **Rep. Brandenburg, Uglen and Boe**.

Rep. Brandenburg- the house looked at the resolution and I guess some of the concern by some of the house Ag members is that we want to include everybody so the amendment came out and the biggest change will be given in description by Rep. Boe.

Rep. Boe- when we heard this there was a lot of negativity against this resolution, so what we did is make this resolution like the other but make it a little softer so we went to legislative council and that is what we did. So that is the rational for the amendment.

Sen. Wanzek- just curious, is it the fear and concern that we are promoting just only large industry?

Rep. Brandenburg- I know there was some concern that we don't want to leave the little guy out. In the spirit of trying to work together we came up with this, the only thing that is really added in there is all sizes and types. I think that is the biggest change. When we put that in then everyone is there and no one can argue.

Sen. Wanzek- it was never my intent to say that this only referred to a certain kind of agriculture. I think that the amendments do capture the spirit and the intent of the resolution.

Sen. Taylor- I think it captures all the spirit of the full intentions when I read both versions of the bill.

Sen. Taylor motioned for the senate to accede to the house amendments and was seconded by **Sen. Miller**, vote 6 yea 0 nay.

**REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
(ACCEDE/RECEDE)**

Bill Number 4018 (, as (re)engrossed):

Date: April 16th

Your Conference Committee Sen. Agriculture

For the Senate:

For the House:

YES / NO			YES / NO		
Sen. Wanzek	x	X	Rep. Brandenburg	X	
Sen. Miller	x	X	Rep. Ualem	x	X
Sen. Taylor	x	X	Rep. Boe	x	X

recommends that the (SENATE/HOUSE) (ACCEDE to) (RECEDE from)

the (Senate/House) amendments on (SJ/HJ) page(s) _____ - _____

X, and place 4018 on the Seventh order.

_____, adopt (further) amendments as follows, and place _____ on the Seventh order:

_____, having been unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed.

((Re)Engrossed) _____ was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

DATE: _____

CARRIER: _____

LC NO. _____	of amendment
LC NO. _____	of engrossment
Emergency clause added or deleted	
Statement of purpose of amendment	

MOTION MADE BY: Taylor

SECONDED BY: Miller

VOTE COUNT 0 YES 0 NO 0 ABSENT

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

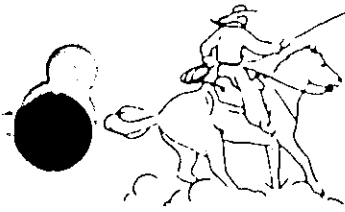
SCR 4018: Your conference committee (Sens. Wanzek, Miller, Taylor and Reps. Brandenburg, Uglem, Boe) recommends that the **SENATE ACCEDE** to the House amendments on SJ page 1001 and place SCR 4018 on the Seventh order.

SCR 4018 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

2009 TESTIMONY

SCR 4018

North Dakota



STOCKMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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www.ndstockmen.org

*Julie
Ellingson
to House*

SCR 4018 Testimony

Good morning, Chairman Flakoll and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee. For the record, my name is Julie Ellingson and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association.

The North Dakota Stockmen's Association recognizes that the global population is exploding and that there is an increasing demand on American agriculturists to feed and clothe a cold and hungry world.

In order to provide the food the world requires but with less land mass and more and more government regulation, farmers, ranchers and others in the food supply chain must be able to do more with less. Therefore, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association supports policies that allow producers to utilize technologies and the latest science to support our food-producing ability, to enhance our environment, to endorse our principles of good animal husbandry, to reinforce our commitment to food safety and to leave a legacy in agriculture for future generations.

For these reasons, we ask for your favorable recommendation on this resolution.



February 12, 2009

SCR 4018

PO Box 2136 • 1415 12th Ave SE
Jamestown ND 58401
800-366-8331 • 701-252-2341
www.ndfu.org

Chairman Flakoll and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee,

For the record, my name is Woody Barth. I am here representing North Dakota Farmers Union. I stand in opposition to SCR 4018.

What is "sustainability"? The question has become somewhat philosophical, yet still important.

Conventional farming has evolved extensively over the years, and it varies from producer to producer. Many would argue for and against it in terms of sustainability and efficiency, depending on their day-to-day practices. The same paradigm goes for industrial farming. Some would argue that it is sustainable because of the production rate and the increase in yields. Others would oppose this sentiment because of the practices it entails.

Congress took its first stab at defining sustainability in the 1990 Farm Bill. In this law, the term sustainable agriculture means "an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long term:

- satisfy human food and fiber needs;
 - enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends;
 - make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;
 - sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and
- enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole."

(SOURCE: USDA Website, www.nal.usda.gov)

Agree or disagree, a definition for sustainability has yet to be widely accepted.

North Dakota Farmers Union believes only the family farm system of agricultural production can provide the opportunities of individual enterprise to all farm families in our society. No other system can achieve the economic and social stability, the soil and environmental stewardship and the production efficiency of the family farm. To our organization, this is an important part of the sustainability puzzle. However, our organization does recognize that if the term becomes too broad, it will lose its significance.

The term "sustainability" means different things to different individuals. Therefore, North Dakota Farmers Union believes it is too soon to definitively label a practice as such, and we urge further study of the issue. Thank you.





4018
#2
Woody Barth
3/19/09

PO Box 2136 • 1415 12th Ave SE
Jamestown ND 58401
800-366-8331 • 701-252-2341
www.ndfu.org

March 19, 2009

SCR 4018

Chairman Johnson and members of the House Agriculture Committee,

For the record, my name is Woody Barth. I am here representing North Dakota Farmers Union. I stand in opposition of the resolution.

What is "sustainability"? The term has become somewhat philosophical, yet still important.

Conventional farming has evolved extensively over the years, and it varies from producer to producer. Many would argue for and against it in terms of sustainability and efficiency, depending on their day-to-day practices. The same paradigm goes for industrial farming. Some would argue that it is sustainable because of the production rate and the increase in yields. Others would oppose this sentiment because of some of the practices it entails.

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 - Sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole."
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Therefore, North Dakota Farmers Union believes it is too soon to definitively label a practice as such.

Thank you.

