

PAC/NAFEC Report – Spring Board Meeting
February 11th, 2016 – Huron, SD

PAC:

When I sat down to write this article, I thought back to when I started in 1983 about how I felt when this information was passed on to me through one of these reports. I know, 1983!!! I presume my thought process was not much different than many of yours today as you are wondering what this really has to do with me. More than you realize. The legislative process has evolved over the years but it is still the vehicle that affects our jobs and benefits. So, why is it important today to get involved? Because this process depends upon **YOU!!** You see, I started out in my career behind someone who has already been doing this for me. I too once thought that someone has been and will take care of this for me. Well... this is not the way it works. **YOU** not have the opportunity to get involved and **YOU** must for **YOU!!** You purchase insurance on most everything else in your life, so why not for your job. This is what the PAC is really all about as it is a process to help us protect our jobs and benefits.

Currently, South Dakota has 28 people who are contributing to the PAC. This is **NOT** acceptable if you believe this process helps us in the legislative process. To those who are contributing, thank you for helping in the legislative process on our behalf. We need to talk to our membership in our districts, in our offices and at our meetings to encourage everyone to contribute. We need everyone to engage in this opportunity and to be a part of the process through making a contribution to the PAC for **YOU!!**

Everyone needs to understand that NASCOE was in the fight on our behalf on all the issues affecting our jobs and benefits and guess what.... the PAC contributions helped. So, I encourage everyone to review the information on the NASCOE website, think about what your contribution would mean in our cause and ask yourself why you aren't investing in your own future!!! Think about this and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

I know this all sounds like the current campaign promises made by all the Presidential candidates' right?? There are a couple of big differences. 1. This is not a promise, it is a **FACT** that the PAC works. 2. Take it from someone who has been in the legislative process in the past and present (since 1983), the PAC process works.

NAFEC:

Recently, eight (8) attachments were sent to me to distribute to the membership. However, this is not the most effective way to get this information to the County Committee. We need to ask our county committee members to become members of this organization. I will be sending this information to each of the offices with the 8 attachments. I ask each of you to promote NAFEC in your counties and encourage at least one COC member to join. They need to do this so the COC sees how this organization works on their behalf, the farmers and ranchers they serve. Our COC members may not see or understand this but NAFEC can and does affect change in our programs and the policy under which FSA administers them. There is a power point presentation and this is a good tool to use in explaining NAFEC to your County Committee members. It is very important that we present this information to our COC members as NAFEC is vitally important to our future and NAFEC is a great partner of NASCOE as they are able to fight battles that NASCOE is not allowed to participate in.

I am currently working with a few COC members to become directors of NAFEC for South Dakota. The NAFEC organization would like to have two directors from each state. Please encourage your COC members to join as this will be good for them and FSA. This is why I stated earlier to encourage at least one member of the COC to join as they can report back to the rest as far as what this great organization is all about and how it does really work for them. Please thank those COC members who joined and encourage them to get involved.

Respectfully filed

Jim Anderson
PAC/NAFEC Chair