COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. The SDML supports allowing a separate and additional class of on-sale liquor licenses for golf courses. (GG – 2003; 2007; 2008)

2. The SDML opposes any change to the requirement that alcoholic beverage licenses be given only to a single legal description. (GG – 2000; 21)

3. The SDML supports the valuation of platted land based on use, rather than zoning designation, and urges cities and counties to work cooperatively to develop legislation. (GG – 2014)

4. The SDML supports the public financing toolbox for local governments. (GG – 2014)

5. The SDML supports a reduced rate for ballot publications. (GG – 2009)

6. The SDML recogni\z zes the importance of water, sewer, electric, and other utilities to the economic development of South Dakota. The SDML strongly opposes any measure that would hinder the growth and development of municipal public utilities. (PW – 2019)

7. The SDML supports planning and zoning legislation that will encourage continuity between city and county planning and zoning procedures and reduce ambiguities within the adoption process, enabling municipalities to more effectively adopt and administer their comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, and subdivision regulations. (PW – 2000; 10)

8. The SDML would strongly oppose any legislation to overrule local zoning or building codes pertaining to mobile homes, manufactured houses or trailer houses. (PW – 2000; 11)

9. The SDML supports the right and authority of municipalities to have at least an equal voice in platting, zoning, planning, code enforcement, and flood management control in the extraterritorial area. The SDML also supports legislation to enhance municipalities’ ability to gain extraterritorial jurisdiction, and permissive legislation allowing cities and counties to enter into intergovernmental agreements for Urban Growth Areas. (PW – 2000; 12)

10. The SDML supports amendments to annexation laws that increase local authority. (PW – 2000; 9)

11. The SDML supports legislation to clarify that the governing board of a municipality under 5,000 may serve as the planning and zoning commission. (PW – 2019)

12. The SDML supports legislation to amend SDCL 9-4-1 to exclude “registered voters” from the petition process for annexation of contiguous territory. (Transferred from GG – 2000; 13)

13. The SDML opposes any legislation which would hinder municipal control of planning, zoning, and development issues within the corporate limits or municipal growth areas. (PW – 2003; 2019)

14. The SDML believes municipal governments should be notified of and participate in economic development efforts within their jurisdiction. (PW – 2014)

15. The SDML supports state and federal funding for the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System to complete services to South Dakota communities. (PW – 2014)

16. The SDML would support legislation to prohibit creation of any entity with municipal powers within five miles of any existing municipal boundaries. (PW – 2015)
17. The SDML supports revising the business improvement district statutes to allow municipalities and counties to enter into joint projects and to locally determine all rates. (T&R – 2003)

18. The SDML supports creating incentives within the REDI fund for investment, not just job creation. (T&R – 2003)

19. The SDML supports making REDI funds available for infrastructure and infrastructure master planning. There is plenty of raw land, but it needs infrastructure before it can be sold to prospects or developed in a timely manner. (T&R – 2003)

20. The SDML supports allowing maximum local control of tax increment financing (TIF) districts, an economic development tool that has led to millions of dollars in increased property value, benefitting both the state as a whole and the local entities sponsoring the districts, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the process. (T&R – 2017)

21. The SDML supports legislation allowing a local vote on up to an additional one cent temporary municipal sales tax to be used for infrastructure projects. (T&R – 2014)

GOVERNMENT ETHICS AND OPERATIONS
22. The SDML supports legislation that would exempt municipalities from the regulations of the unclaimed property laws. (GG – 2000; 12)

23. The SDML supports amending SDCL 12-1-5 to include municipal election officials on the State Board of Elections. (GG – 2000; 13)

24. The SDML supports clarifying signature requirements all municipal election petitions. (GG – 2016)

25. The SDML supports allowing the municipal finance officer to check the residence and voter registrations of candidates for municipal office and voter registration of petition signatures. (GG – 2018; 2019)

26. The SDML supports clarifying the initial election of officers in a newly incorporated municipality. (GG – 2016)

27. The SDML supports amending SDCL 9-19-13 to provide that all administrative resolutions would be effective upon passage and publication. (T&R – 2004) (Referred from T&R 2018)

28. The SDML supports amending state law to clarify residence requirements for municipal elected officials. (GG – 2014)

29. The SDML supports efforts by the Secretary of State to provide consistency in election statutes. (GG – 2017)

30. The SDML supports making the language on “secondary” or “run-off” elections consistent. (GG – 2019)

31. The SDML supports working cooperatively with other state entities to clarify residence for voter registration. (GG – 2015)

32. The SDML supports making provisions for supplementing municipal budgets consistent with provisions found in county law. (GG – 2015)

33. The SDML supports increasing the bid limit for public improvement projects. (GG – 2010).

34. The SDML supports updating the surplus property laws. (GG – 2019)

35. The SDML supports amending state law to continue to provide the tax levy request to the county by October 1 each year, but to allow more time to develop the annual municipal budget. (GG – 2018)
36. The SDML supports cooperative activities between county and municipal governments, the protection of existing joint activities, and elimination of barriers that hinder the creation of such arrangements. (added by SDML Board of Directors, Dec. 9, 2015) (GG – 2016)

37. The SDML supports increasing the audit “trigger” to $750,000. (GG – 2014)

38. The SDML supports increasing the Internal Control Review range to between $100,000 and $750,000. (GG – 2014)

39. The SDML supports changing the makeup of the local board of equalization to more appropriately reflect the distribution of property tax revenues. (GG – 2008)

40. The SDML would support county efforts to impose a penalty of up to $250 for failure to appear at a requested property tax assessment appeal to the Office of Hearing Examiners. (GG – 2017)

41. The SDML supports allowing citizens to vote on their preferred method of receiving public notices. (GG – 2017)

42. The SDML supports allowing alternative publication options for local governments. (GG – 2003; 2018)

43. The SDML supports a safe harbor provision for publication errors made by newspapers when legible, timely information has been submitted by the local government for elections. (GG – 2018)

44. The SDML supports amending statutes regarding designation of official newspapers to require the newspaper submit the circulation density by local government jurisdiction. (GG – 2011; 2013)

45. The SDML supports legislation to allow a local option for resolutions to be published by title and abbreviated explanation only. (GG – 2006)

46. The SDML supports legislation to allow publication of bond resolutions, bond ordinances, and franchise ordinances by reference. (GG – 2003)

47. The SDML supports clarifying state law to allow municipalities to purchase brokered and negotiated CD’s that meet FDIC requirements. (Resolutions Committee 2018)

48. The SDML supports reviewing open meeting laws in conjunction with any Open Government Task Force so long as the SDML is adequately represented. (GG – 2009; 2012)

49. The SDML opposes state regulation of the Health Pool of South Dakota, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, or the SDML Workers’ Compensation Fund. (GG – 2003)

50. The SDML supports legislation amending SDCL 34A-6-29 to make the collection of delinquent garbage collection fees consistent with the collection of other delinquent municipal utility fees. (GG – 2006)

51. The SDML supports allowing counties to add a processing fee of up to 5%, or a minimum of $15.00, for the collection of delinquent municipal utility and other service fees and charges and for nuisance actions. (GG – 2016)

52. The SDML supports legislation to allow funds to be deposited directly to municipalities from the state, rather than going first through the counties. (GG – 2006)

53. The SDML supports changing the vote to create a hospital district to a simple majority. (GG – 2007)

54. The SDML supports equal treatment of all government facilities which serve as the official office of elected officials or any buildings where governing bodies officially meet on a regular basis. (GG – 2012)
The SDML supports making special assessments for sidewalks consistent with all other special assessment procedures. (GG – 2013)

The SDML supports clarifying that nuisance assessments may be made by local resolution. (GG – 2013)

The SDML supports amending SDCL 21-10-6 to distinguish between an “assessment” and a “special assessment.” (GG – 2016)

**LOCAL CONTROL AND HOME RULE**

The SDML supports permissive legislation granting municipalities the power to control the number and the fees for on-sale and off-sale liquor licenses to be granted within the municipality. (GG – 2000; 24)

The SDML supports local control of the sale, use, distribution, marketing, and promotion of tobacco products that are more restrictive than those provided by the Legislature. (GG – 2003)

The SDML strongly supports legislation to distance state laws from Dillon’s Rule. (GG – 2005)

The SDML supports the ability to use drones for any local government purpose. (Resolutions – 2014)

The SDML opposes state legislation limiting municipalities from adopting whichever portions of the International Codes deemed necessary. (PHSW – 2009; 2016)

The SDML recommends that the Department of Transportation, the Legislature, and any county affected, carefully review the financial impact of the transfer of any roads, bridges or highways to the municipality. The SDML supports legislation to require counties and the state to provide to municipalities all maintenance records and bridge inspections prior to the negotiation of a transfer. (PW – 2000; 2010; 1)

The SDML strongly supports legislation affirming the authority of municipal government to control activities and charge for the use by utilities within public rights-of-way within municipal jurisdiction. (PW – 2000; 2)

The SDML opposes any regulation by others of any service provided by or regulated by a municipality. However, the SDML strongly feels that municipalities should be included in any discussion on restructuring of the energy and telecommunication industries. (PW – 2000; 3)

**MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**

The SDML supports an amendment to restrict or repeal the presumptions included in SDCL 9-16-45 pertaining to circulatory or respiratory disease as “occupational” in fire fighters and opposes any amendment to expand the disease presumption regarding occupational diseases affecting volunteer and active paid firefighters. (GG – 2000; CB7)

The SDML supports legislation authorizing municipal access to federal background checks for licensees. (GG – 2008; 2009)

The SDML supports legislation to make municipal laws consistent as to the use of the term “finance officer” rather than “clerk/treasurer.” (GG – 2010)

**MUNICIPAL FINANCE**

The SDML supports efforts to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for ambulance and emergency medical services. (PHSW – 2016)

The SDML supports amending state law to allow municipalities to establish policies on accepting donations. (PHSW – 2019)

The SDML supports continuation, reinstatement, or new state and federal grants and loans, at sustained levels, including State Revolving Fund monies, to local governments to facilitate construction and upgrading
of sewer, stormwater utility, water, and solid waste facilities as mandated by state and federal regulations. (PW – 2000; 2007; 19)

72. The SDML supports state funding to restore the funds transferred from the Aeronautics Trust Fund in order to allow South Dakota airports to continue to comply with safety regulations and to provide needed infrastructure improvements. (PW – 2016)

73. The SDML supports legislation to require that all aviation funds, grants, revenues, taxes or monies from any other source collected previously and in the future be dedicated for aviation use only. (Moved from Taxation and Revenue Committee; 31; 2019)

74. The SDML supports cooperative efforts to return a portion of the video lottery revenues to municipalities. (T&R – 2000; 2)

75. The SDML supports legislation to increase the license fee that municipalities may charge on video lottery machines. (T&R – 2000; 3)

76. The SDML supports amending SDCL 6-3-3 to return the required percentage of the vote to pass a joint bond issue to a simple majority. (T&R – 2000; 4)

77. The SDML strongly supports legislation to amend SDCL 10-52A-2 to allow up to 2 percent “bed, booze, and board” tax. (T&R – 2005)

78. The SDML supports legislation requiring counties to notify municipalities of any changes to road and bridge reserve fund levies. (T&R – 2015)

79. The SDML supports legislation to make provisions for taxing all products and services, such as electronic amusement devices, consistent between the state and municipalities. (T&R – 2017)

80. The SDML supports the option to change the Business Improvement District room fee to a percentage basis. (T&R 2019)

Sales Tax

81. The SDML opposes any legislation that would reduce, remove, repeal or reallocate the municipal sales tax, liquor tax reversion or any other municipal revenues to any other unit of government or that would expand the power to impose a sales or use tax to any other unit of government. (T&R – 2000; 9)

82. The SDML opposes any further exemptions from the sales tax laws. (T&R – 2000; 10)

83. The SDML opposes the repeal of the sales tax on groceries. (T&R – 2004)

84. The SDML supports legislation to allow municipalities to impose an additional tax on the leases or rentals of hotel, motel, campsites, or other lodging accommodations within the municipality. (T&R – 2000; 11)

85. The SDML opposes any attempt by the state to extend their authority over the collection, administration, and redistribution of the municipal sales tax for any purpose. (T&R – 2000; 12)

86. The SDML strongly opposes any formula-driven redistribution of sales and use tax revenues. The SDML strongly supports maintaining the current system of returning revenues based on sales actually attributed to that point of delivery. (T&R – 2002; 15)

87. The SDML supports allowing broad, local-option authority to municipalities that would enable the return of any potential tax revenue increases to entities or persons deemed appropriate by the municipality. (T&R – 2002; 20)
88. The SDML supports a requirement that all prior debt obligations be covered regardless of any potential initiative, referendum, or legislative action. (T&R – 2002; 22)

89. The SDML is opposed to de minimus exceptions. (The exceptions do not serve to level the playing field and the collection allowance will reimburse sellers for the costs of collecting the taxes.) (T&R – 2002; 23)

90. The SDML opposes any municipal funding of a sales tax collection allowance for all sellers, whether in or out of state. (T&R – 2002; 2004; 2012; 2013)

91. The SDML supports continued local control over local rates and opposes weighted averaging or a state-imposed single rate. (T&R – 2002; 25)

92. The SDML supports retaining the ability of municipalities to impose, adjust, and determine local rates, protect current revenues, prevent loss of revenue, and to account for any future growth. (T&R – 2002; 26)

93. The SDML supports reinstatement of the ability to tax Internet services. (T&R – 2002; 2010; 27)

**State/Federal Funding**

94. The SDML supports repeal of state taxation on alternative fuels used by local governments and supports federal tax incentives for government purchases of alternative fuel vehicles. (T&R – 2007)

95. The SDML supports exempting government projects from the contractors’ excise tax. (T&R – 2004; 2015)

96. The SDML supports exempting government owned and provided materials from the contractors’ excise tax. (T&R – 2015)

97. The SDML supports legislation to allow a local option, gross receipts tax on alcoholic beverages for the counties to fund public-safety related items. (T&R – 2015)

98. The SDML supports exempting all municipal projects, facilities, and equipment from sales and use taxes, so long as the municipality retains ownership and control, regardless of who installs or operates the facility or equipment. (T&R – 2011)

99. The SDML opposes removing or reducing tax exemptions for municipal bonds. (T&R – 2013)

**Property Tax**

100. The SDML supports legislation to allow, at local option, the creation of library districts to allow for the equitable funding for libraries that provide service to municipalities, counties, and other overlapping entities. (T&R – 2000; 31)

101. The SDML opposes any legislation that would shift more of the current property tax levy from ag to non-ag property. (T&R – 2000; 32)

102. The SDML opposes attempts to amend the Constitution to cap the growth of property values and base the value on the acquisition value of property. (T&R – 2005)

103. The SDML supports continuing liens and encumbrances on property purchased through a tax deed. (T&R – 2013)

104. The SDML supports legislation to amend SDCL 10-13-35 to set the property tax cap at 3% or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. (T&R – 2015)

105. The SDML supports enhancing and streamlining the information provided by the county director of equalization to the local board of equalization regarding reassessment plans, growth, and listing of properties inspected during the prior year. (T&R 2018)
User Fees

106. The SDML supports the concept of user fees for public service calls, including but not limited to law enforcement and fire protection for all tax-exempt properties. (T&R – 2000; 2008; 2010; 33; 2015)

107. The SDML opposes discriminatory charges on county taxpayers living within municipal boundaries for services, including but not limited to 911 emergency services. (T&R – 2012)

Municipal Utilities

108. The SDML opposes forced transfer or sale of ownership of state or federally owned dams and power marketing administrations. (PW – 2000; 2010; 15) (Deleted portion moved to Core Beliefs)

109. The SDML opposes the practice of the federal government threatening the loss of funding to ensure compliance with federal guidelines. The SDML requests the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to allow flexibility to water systems to meet water certification requirements and urges the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to continue monetary assistance and free training for water certification. (PW – 2000; 2008; 16)

110. The SDML opposes any legislative and regulatory barriers to the creation of municipal electric utilities and supports the fundamental principle of public power and the right of municipalities to provide any utility service desired by their citizens. (PW – 2004)

111. The SDML opposes legislation that removes the ability of municipalities to determine responsibility for service lines between the homeowner and the city. (PW – 2005; 2016)

112. The SDML supports the right and authority of municipalities to retain local control over all aspects of placement and use of individual alternative power systems. (PW – 2008)

113. The SDML encourages policymakers at all levels to understand the importance of robust broadband and other technology deployment in rural America to avoid a digital divide between rural and urban citizens. (PW – 2010; 2019)

114. The SDML supports amending annexation laws to ensure non-contiguous municipal utility facilities, specifically wastewater treatment plants and landfills, be considered as being within municipal boundaries. (PW – 2012)

Public Health and Safety

115. The SDML supports legislation to expand affordable and workforce housing opportunities in South Dakota. (PHSW – 2014; 2018)

116. The SDML supports making affordable public and private health care coverage available to all South Dakotans and strongly encourages efforts to expand Medicaid. (PHSW – 2014; 2015; 2016)

117. The SDML supports a statewide task force to review access and resources for the treatment of alcoholism, drug addiction, tobacco addiction, and gambling addiction. The SDML calls for the State of South Dakota to assume increased responsibility for funding of detoxification and alcoholic, drug addiction, tobacco addiction, and gambling treatment facilities from state alcohol beverage taxes, tobacco taxes, and gaming revenues. (PHSW – 2000; 2014 CB2; 2015; 2018) (Amended and moved from Core Beliefs)

118. The SDML supports a mechanism for blighted, vacant, or nuisance properties to assist in the costs of their own remediation, including any asbestos testing and removal. (PHSW – 2014; 2016; 2018)

119. The SDML supports legislation to provide stronger penalties and increase requirements for mandatory vehicle insurance. (PHSW – 2007)

120. The SDML supports legislation to remove restrictions which prohibit municipalities from prohibiting the use of phosphates in lawn fertilizers within city limits. (PHSW – 2010)
121. The SDML supports continued efforts to reduce distracted driving. (PHSW – 2012; 2014)
122. The SDML supports adoption of the most recent edition of the International Codes, with the option of local amendments. (PHSW – 2013; 2014; 2017)
123. The SDML strongly supports a statewide task force to review access and resources for the treatment of mental healthcare and increased funding for services and programs. (PHSW – 2015)
124. The SDML supports legislation that eliminates any regulatory barriers within state law that prevent or stifle the creation of triage centers, which provide detoxification services to those seeking treatment for substance abuse and crisis stabilization for mental health issues. (PHSW – 2019)
125. The SDML supports making seatbelt violations a primary offense. (PHSW – 2016)
126. The SDML opposes any effort to weaken the statewide smoking ban and will support legislation that strengthens state and local efforts to enforce this prohibition. (PHSW – 2016)
127. The SDML supports measures to keep public safety entities viable. (PHSW – 2019)
128. The SDML supports a reliable statewide emergency radio system that allows users across the state to communicate within and outside of their agencies. In order to sustain this capability and enhance operations locally, statewide, amongst other states, and with federal agencies, the SDML supports state funding initiatives to upgrade the statewide system to the national standard for public safety communications utilized by both federal and state governments known as Project 25 (P25). (PHSW – 2017; 2018)
129. The SDML supports a state funding initiative to mitigate the emerald ash borer infestation, similar to the state’s successful response to the pine beetle infestation and supports a statewide ban on the sale of ash trees or untreated firewood from ash trees. (PHSW 2018)
130. The SDML supports legislation and funding to prevent sex trafficking. (PHSW 2018)
131. The SDML recommends that the State Department of Transportation analyze and make recommendations to the legislature regarding the adverse effects of state load and length limits on municipal streets, bridges, and traffic patterns regarding state load limits, issuing of permits, or truck lengths. (PW – 2000; 2010; 6)
132. The SDML strongly urges the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the South Dakota State Legislature to adopt rules, regulations and appropriate legislation to designate the entire Big Sioux River Basin as a water source protection area and to establish a management plan for the allocation of water in the Big Sioux River Basin (the river and associated aquifers.) (PW – 2000; 7)
133. The SDML supports the Safe Drinking Water Act; however, the SDML opposes federally mandated drinking water standards unless based upon proven human health risks substantiated by scientific data. The SDML continues to support monetary assistance to public water systems based upon flexible and reasonable incentives. (PW – 2000; 2008; 8; 2019)
134. The SDML opposes any US Corps of Engineers’ proposal to levy fees on the storage of water in the Missouri River reservoirs to recover costs of constructing the Missouri River dams as these fees would pose severe economic impacts to municipal and rural water systems in the state. (PW – 2011; 2019)
135. The SDML supports efforts to hold telecom wireless companies accountable for all surcharge remittance on wireless services provided. The SDML also supports legislation allowing inflationary increase in the surcharge to keep pace with continued growing costs and inflation. (T&R – 2017)
136. The SDML supports expanding the base for the 911 surcharge to include all means of communicating with a 911 system. (T&R – 2005)
137. The SDML supports enhanced revenue from the state and federal governments to implement heightened security standards necessitated by any state or federal Homeland Security requirements. (T&R – 2002; 36)

**CORE BELIEFS**

**Community and Economic Development**

CB1. The SDML urges all municipalities to adopt a fair housing policy. (GG – 2000; CB16)

CB2. The SDML opposes bills similar to the “Bradley Bill” because of the potential environmental, social and economic impacts on the people and governments of South Dakota. (GG – 2000; 20)

CB3. The SDML encourages the Governor and the Legislature and the Ellsworth Authority to assist in the efforts to retain Ellsworth Air Force Base as a viable military facility. (GG – 2003; 15)

CB4. The SDML urges federal and state support for alternative transportation programs that take into account new technologies, mobility, community quality of life, and demographic trends as well as maintenance of traditional modes of transportation. (GG – 2015; 2016) (Moved from General Policy)

CB5. The SDML supports ensuring K-12 education is at the highest academically competitive levels as well as the teaching of basic life skills and responsibilities. (PHSW – 2003)

CB6. The SDML supports the use of public and private colleges and universities in producing labor studies and other studies on local needs and resources, and in the development of a statewide master plan for economic development. (PHSW – 2003)

CB7. The SDML encourages general education cost forgiveness for South Dakota university and technical school graduates who stay in-state for a specified length of time. (PHSW – 2003; 2010)

CB8. The SDML supports the creation of a long-range technology master plan for South Dakota. (PHSW – 2003)

CB9. The SDML urges investment in research and development and intellectual property using research triangles and incubator programs to promote these endeavors. (PHSW – 2003)

CB10. The SDML recognizes that any mismanagement of the Black Hills National Forest is a health, safety and economic development issue for residents of South Dakota. The SDML supports policies that prioritize quality of life and economic development in the Black Hills National Forest. (PHSW – 2003; 2016)

CB11. The SDML urges the SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources to recognize that environmental regulations cost municipalities an immense amount of money, which could otherwise be spent on economic development and quality of life improvements. The SDML urges DENR to keep environmental regulation as reasonable and affordable as possible for municipalities in South Dakota. (PHSW – 2003)

CB12. The SDML recognizes the importance of maintaining the National Science Lab, and strongly supports its continued scientific efforts at the former Homestake mine. (PHSW – 2005; 14) (Moved from General Policy)

CB13. The SDML encourages the development of a state-wide economic development policy in South Dakota - recognizing that quality of life in communities is a major factor. (PHSW – 2002) (Moved from General Policy)

CB14. The SDML believes that municipal and county governments should formulate and control all local planning and zoning programs. (PW – 2000; CB7)
CB15. The SDML supports enhanced state and federal funding for water supply and wastewater systems. (PW – 2014; 2018)

CB16. The SDML encourages the Legislature and the Governor to review all laws as they pertain to economic development, and to work with municipalities to develop opportunities and remove impediments to development of our communities. (T&R – 2002; 1)

**Government Ethics and Operations**

CB17. The SDML endorses the Core Beliefs espoused by the National League of Cities.¹ (GG – 2000; CB18)

CB18. The SDML encourages municipalities to initiate policies to oppose racial profiling in any municipal activity. (GG – 2000; CB19)


CB20. The SDML supports efforts to review and update state statutes related to municipal government provided the South Dakota Municipal League has appropriate representation in that process. (GG – 2000)

**Local Control and Home Rule**

CB21. The SDML encourages federal, state, and local government leaders to continue to work with American Indian tribes to resolve taxation, regulatory, environmental and infrastructure issues, and law enforcement concerns. Such efforts should address concerns resulting from the federal government placing land into trust on behalf of American Indian tribes without such tribes having entered into a binding agreement with state and local entities on the collection of taxes, law enforcement, infrastructure and environmental concerns, and regulations. (GG – 2000; CB20)

CB22. The SDML encourages consolidation of the Boards of Equalization with the cooperation of all entities of local government in order to relieve taxpayers of unnecessary burdens and encourages legislation to require counties to consolidate Boards of Equalization when requested by a municipality. (GG – 2000; CB21)

CB23. The SDML opposes any legislation expanding the power and authority of special districts, sub-districts, cooperatives, and sanitary districts to render services without allowing municipalities the same options. (GG – 2000; CB22)

CB24. The SDML proactively opposes the mandatory OSHA requirements being applied to municipalities. (GG – 2000; 2)

CB25. The SDML opposes any legislation which would inhibit municipalities from providing services requested by citizens in whatever form the citizens approve. (GG – 2006)

CB26. The SDML opposes any state environmental laws and regulations that are more stringent than existing federal environmental laws, standards and regulations. (PHSW – 2000; CB4)

CB27. The SDML encourages standards be developed to provide equal 911 service to all citizens and visitors and encourages cooperative efforts to improve 911 services and efficiency. The SDML opposes mandated consolidation of 911 service centers. (Adopted at Joint Board Meeting between SDML and SDACC, December,1999; 8; Amended by SDML Board, December, 2006; PHSW – 2016) (Moved from General Policy)

CB28. The SDML recommends that streets and highways constructed with state/federal funds be based upon consultation and coordination with the local government. (PW – 2000; CB4)

CB29. The SDML urges the Transportation Commission, with input from municipal government, to develop and adhere to an adequate transportation plan and supports the development of an access management model. Further, municipalities must be offered participation in any change affecting their area. (PW – 2000; CB5)
CB 30. The SDML opposes any state mandated prohibition against the cities’ right to construct with their own crews. (PW – 2003)

CB 31. The SDML opposes any measure that restricts local control over taxation and spending and urges the defeat of any such measure. Further, the SDML encourages municipalities to work individually and with other local governments to inform citizens of the negative impact of tax and spending limitation measures. (T&R – 2000; CB11)

CB 32. The SDML opposes any attempt to impose a tax or regulation on self-insured local government pools or individual self-insured local government entities. (T&R – 2000; CB12)

Municipal Employees

CB 33. The SDML endorses the retention of the existing state constitutional right to work law and opposes any state or federal legislation that interferes with or affects that right. While recognizing the right of employees to organize, it is fundamental that each employee be guaranteed individual freedom of choice in joining or not joining a union or other employee organization. (GG – 2000; CB1)

CB 34. The SDML advocates that the cities continue to review and upgrade job safety and health standards for all municipal employees and require the use of safety equipment by municipal employees while on duty. (GG – 2000; CB2)

CB 35. The SDML supports legislation that prohibits violence in the workplace. (GG – 2000; CB3)

CB 36. The SDML urges local governing bodies to adopt those portions of the Municipal League Personnel Manual that meet their local needs. (GG – 2000; CB4)

CB 37. The SDML encourages member municipalities to allot funding and paid time for employee and officials training and educational opportunities so that municipal service is made more effective and at the same time employees may become qualified for promotion to higher level positions. The SDML encourages municipal employees and officials to join and participate in professional associations, job related organizations, and other continuing education activities and urges cities to allot funding and paid time for such membership and participation. (GG – 2000; CB5)

CB 38. The SDML urges municipalities to prepare and adopt Equal Employment Opportunity policies that comply with law. (GG – 2000; CB6; 2013)

CB 39. The SDML is opposed to any legislation or administrative rules adopting binding arbitration. (GG – 2000; 2007; CB10)

CB 40. The SDML opposes repeal of Article III, Section 26 of the South Dakota Constitution relating to municipal powers denied to private organizations. The SDML opposes any further changes in SDCL 3-18-3 providing for the voting procedure for determination of bargaining unit representation. The SDML supports SDCL 3-18-10 which prohibits strikes by public employees. (GG – 2000; CB11)

CB 41. The SDML supports local consideration of “equal pay for equal work” but opposes the development of comparable worth pay systems through DOL rulemaking that advances the notion that government should dictate an organization’s compensation program. (GG – 2000; CB12; 2013)

CB 42. The SDML urges cities who do not have a retirement system to join the South Dakota Retirement System after careful fiscal review. (GG – 2000; CB13)

CB 43. The SDML recommends that municipalities make available health and life insurance coverage for their employees. (GG – 2000; CB14)

CB 44. The SDML urges municipalities and other units of local government to consider joining the SDML Workers’ Compensation Fund, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, the South Dakota Public Funds
Investment Trust, the Health Pool of South Dakota, and SDML Municipal Government Software; and to review other services available through the SDML. (GG – 2000; CB15)

CB45. The SDML opposes any investment of the assets of the South Dakota Retirement System in “social investing” or “venture capital.” (GG – 2000; 5)

CB46. The SDML opposes any legislative action allowing a participating entity or group of members being removed from the South Dakota Retirement System. (GG – 2000; 6)

**Municipal Finance**

CB47. The SDML encourages local governments to maintain 911 systems using the Funding Surcharge allowed by SDCL 34-45 (Emergency Reporting Telephone) and encourages legislation to increase this surcharge to fully fund the system. (PHSW – 2000; 2007; 2010; CB3)

**State/Federal Funding**

CB48. The SDML strongly supports the federal government honoring all of its funding obligations, including but not limited to federal highway funding and airport funding. The SDML also strongly supports the continued assistance of the SD Department of Transportation in assuming the local matching portion of federal highway monies. (T&R – 2000; 2010; 2011; CB1)

CB49. The SDML supports periodic evaluation and increases in state motor vehicle license fees for the funding of streets and highways and supports exploring other revenue to fund the highway transportation needs of the state. (T&R – 2000; CB2)

CB50. The SDML will support legislation to repeal the reduction in license fees for commercial vehicles, based on age of the vehicle. (T&R – 2000; CB3)

CB51. The SDML would oppose any redistribution of the motor fuel taxation that would violate the accord reached by the State and local governments in 1985. (T&R – 2000; CB4)

CB52. The SDML supports funding of the South Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program. (T&R – 2000; CB5)

CB53. The SDML recognizes that the US Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for the operation and maintenance of dams on the Missouri River, which due to design deficiencies, have caused stream bank erosion, channel sedimentation, and riverbed degradation. Therefore, the cost to operate and maintain the Missouri River system as envisioned in the Flood Control Act of 1944 (Pick-Sloan) should be borne by the Federal Government. (T&R – 2000; CB7)

CB54. The SDML supports legislation for state general funds for training programs at the local level required by the state for firefighters and EMS workers and especially including funds to reimburse volunteers for expenses incurred in training. (T&R – 2000; CB8)

CB55. The SDML requests that the state financially underwrite the full costs required by the state. Funds levied for training should be used only for training. Adequate funding of the law enforcement academy is essential to the provision of law enforcement officer training. (T&R – 2000; CB9; 2015)

CB56. The SDML supports the provisions of SDCL 6-15-1 and 6-15-2, relating to unfunded mandates, and believes that any new federal or state program, fee, legislation, rule, or regulation imposed upon municipalities must be federally or state funded. (T&R – 2000; CB10)

CB57. The SDML supports repeal of state taxation on fuels used by local governments. (T&R – 2003; 31)

CB58. The SDML believes that whenever possible and proper, additional local government costs should not be funded through increased real estate taxes, but through appropriate user fees or user tax systems or any other non-ad valorem revenue sources. (T&R – 2000; 33)
CB59. The SDML supports continued state and federal financing at sustained levels to local governments for projects rehabilitating and preserving water quality in South Dakota streams, rivers, lakes and aquifers. (T&R – 2000; 29) (Moved from General Policy)

CB60. The SDML supports developing an open, stronger, more cooperative working relationship with the SD Department of Revenue. (T&R – 2010; 2012) (Moved from General Policy)

CB61. The SDML supports federal funding, including the “state-side” share of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, on the condition that the state continues its practice of sharing those funds with municipalities. (T&R – 2000; 2016; 30) (Amended and moved from General Policy)

**Municipal Utilities**

CB62. The SDML supports the rights of municipalities to establish electric utility systems to provide service within their corporate limits and adjacent urban growth areas. (PW – 2006)

CB63. The SDML opposes any legislation limiting or eliminating a municipal electric utility’s right to serve customers facilitated by annexation and/or condemnation. (PW – 2006)

CB64. The SDML encourages the state and federal government to maintain dams in a safe and usable condition. (PW – 2010) (Partially moved from General Policy)

CB65. The SDML supports the continued training and certification of landfill operators. (PW – 2000; 2004; 2010; 17) (Moved from General Policy)

CB66. The SDML opposes any changes to the Power Marketing Administrations and specifically the Western Area Power Administration which deviate from the principles of beneficiary pays and cost-based rates. (PW – 2012)

CB67. The SDML opposes the imposition of any federal or state taxes, fees, or regulations that would have an effect upon municipally owned enterprises or utilities. (T&R – 2000; 2016; 37; 2019) (Moved from General Policy)

**Public Health and Safety**

CB68. The SDML believes that the main emphasis of environmental protection should be information and assistance to municipalities and education of the general public. The League urges the State and Federal Government to fully fund programs and provide technical assistance for planning and implementing programs and regulations established by state and federal laws. The League urges continued research and pilot studies in the fields of pollution control, flood control, water and conservation, river siltation, forest management and waste management. (PHSW – 2000; CB1)

CB69. The SDML recognizes the costs associated with maintaining and training regional emergency response teams in South Dakota and supports continued funding from the State of South Dakota. (PHSW – 2006; 2007; 2010) (Amended and moved from General Policy)

CB70. The SDML supports legislation that requires that users of private telephone switches or services be provided capabilities of the same level of 911 services as is available to other residents of the jurisdiction. (PHSW – 2000; 1) (Moved from General Policy)

CB71. The SDML supports legislation that continues to maintain compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act of 1974 and supports legislation for funding compliance. (PHSW – 2000; 2007; 3) (Moved from General Policy)

CB72. The SDML supports the right of local jurisdictions to establish firefighting standards. The SDML does not oppose fire standards such as those issued by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as long as such standards allow municipalities real and substantial flexibility for the way municipalities provide fire and emergency medical services. (PHSW – 2002; 7; 2016) (Moved from General Policy)
CB73. The SDML encourages the local units of government to use the funds available from the State of SD to combat West Nile and other mosquito-borne diseases and encourages the State of SD to increase these funds. (PHSW – 2007; 2016) (Amended and moved from General Policy)

CB74. The SDML urges cities to continue weekly testing of pools and public bodies of water as previously required by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. (PHSW – 2011; 2016) (Moved from General Policy)

CB75. The SDML encourages the licensing of building contractors by local units of government to ensure that contractors comply with minimum standards to protect the consumer. (PHSW – 2004) (Moved from main policy statement - 2018)

CB76. The SDML urges municipalities to develop ordinances that establish water and energy priorities within the municipality to conserve these resources. Further, the SDML urges municipalities to develop and implement public education programs designated to encourage water and energy conservation methods. (PW – 2000; CB1)

CB77. The SDML endorses the wise use of energy and urges local officials to be able to provide adequate input into any energy management or energy standards plan or regulation that affects local government. (PW – 2000; CB2)

CB78. The SDML feels strongly that a concerted effort should be made by the state, counties, and cities of this state to eliminate traffic hazards and provide uniform traffic control devices and signing for streets and highways. (PW – 2000; CB3)

CB79. The SDML supports the Department of Environment and Natural Resources establishing water quality standards that protect public health and the environment, but opposes EPA mandates that establish national one-size-fits-all standards that do not fit South Dakota because they are overly protective, have negligible environmental benefit, and have a dramatic economic impact to publicly owned wastewater treatment works. (PW – 2011; 2016) (Moved from General Policy)

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1 Core Beliefs of the National League of Cities

We Believe in...

- Representative, participatory local government
- Local government as the cornerstone of government in the United States
- The value of public service
- The value of diversity throughout our organization and our communities
- Municipal authority over municipal issues
- A commitment to the highest ethical standards among all public officials
- Civility and mutual respect
- Anticipating the needs of communities and developing strategies to meet those needs and improve the quality of life
- Partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations to strengthen cities and our advocacy efforts