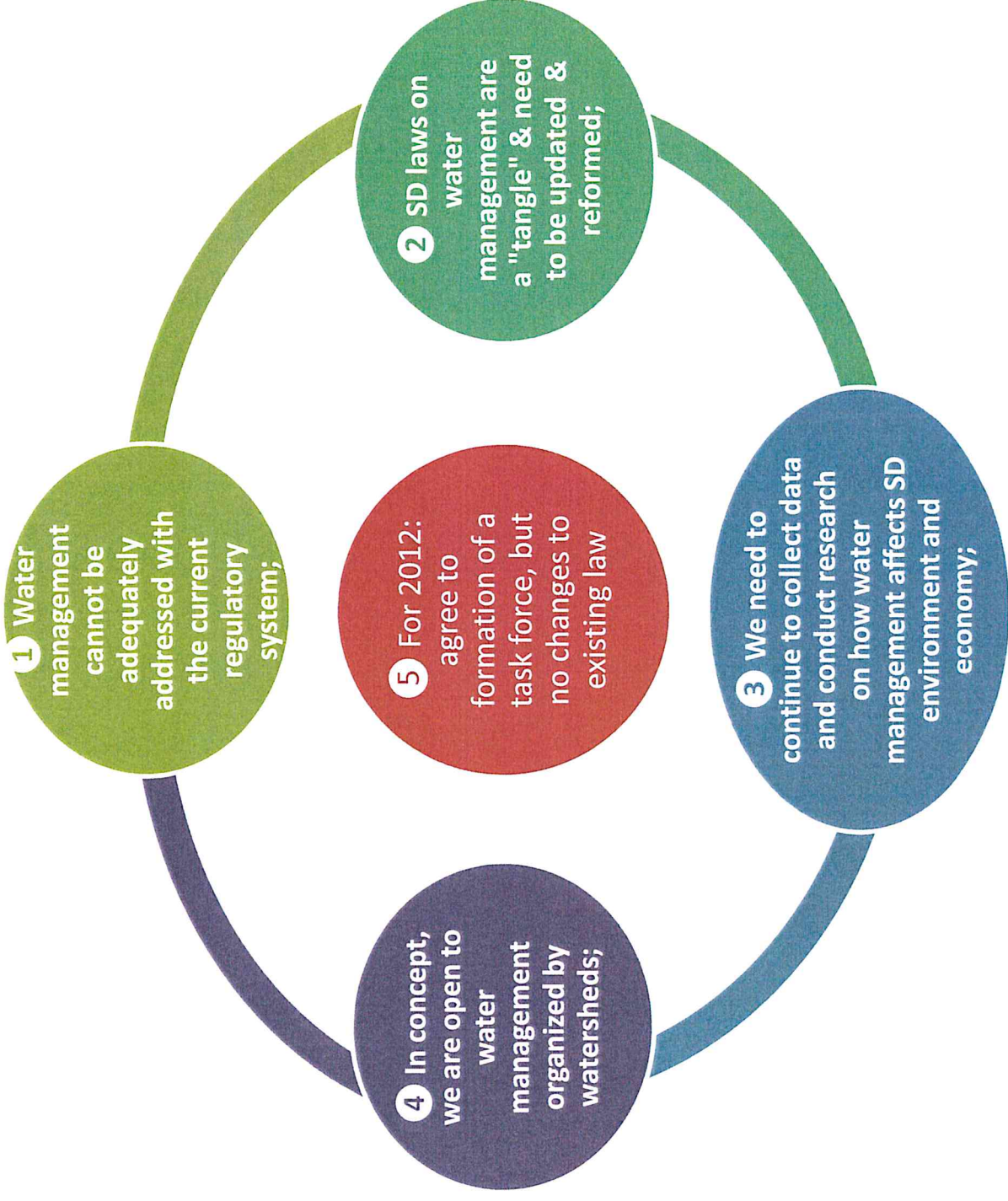




South Dakota Legislature
House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
3 March 2015

With the proposed amendment described below, the South Dakota Corn Growers Association supports SB2.

1. **Big Picture.** Production agriculture is our #1 industry and is good for South Dakota.
2. **Principles.** SDGCA advocates for a regulatory environment that is stable, predictable and fair. However, *additional* government structures are not needed.
3. **Water law.** Changes to water law needs to respect private property rights, be based on science/evidence and encourage communication among landowners.
4. **Watersheds.** Since 2012, SDCGA has supported movement in the direction of watersheds as water does not stop at political boundaries, regulatory boundaries should be based on hydrology, and inconsistent regulatory structures should be eliminated.
5. **Present System.** While the present system of water management can be improved, most of our producers are comfortable with the current system and circumspect about proposed changes.
6. **2012 Handout.** Support for movement toward watersheds has been based primarily on the four reasons referenced in the 2012 handout (circular graphic).
7. **2013 Handout.** Following the establishment of the 2012 Watershed Task Force, ag groups collaborated and suggested possible legislative action in the 5 areas referenced on the 2013 handout (5 column graphic).
8. **Northeast.** After three years of hearings and public input, the Watershed Task Force did not receive any legislative solutions to the challenge of flooding in the NE portion of South Dakota.
9. **SB2 Amendment (labeled as "SB2of").** The amendment makes three critical changes:
 - a. Refocuses the task force to an area where there is a real problem today.
 - b. Makes it clear the river basin natural resource districts are not an additional layer of government and allows work to continue to determine if these new districts could replace counties as a regulatory entity.
 - c. Eliminates the 2018 elections.



Watershed Task Force – 1 July 2013 Legislative Concepts



Note: In June 2013, the registered lobbyist or executive director of each group named above authorized the name of their respective organization to appear as being supportive, in concept, to legislative action in that subject area. Specific legislation implementing any concept will need to be reviewed and approved by each respective board.