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Cattle Assessment Referendum Takes Place on October 30

The North Carolina Cattlemen's Association (NCCA) has announced that the N. C. Cattle Industry Assessment Referendum vote will take place on October 30, 2024. The North Carolina Cattlemen's Association will conduct a referendum to continue the N. C. Cattle Industry Assessment. Arrangements have been made with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension to facilitate the voting. The Extension offices in each county will be the polling places.

Ryan Clark, President of the NC Cattlemen's Association said that the referendum will be to assess all cattle sold and marketed in North Carolina one dollar per head for the purposes of advancing the cattle industry in the state. The money collected will continue to fund the following five areas: 1) youth programs, 2) cattle research, 3) education, 4) promotion of North Carolina cattle and beef, and 5) issues management.

The North Carolina dairy industry will also benefit from the funds collected, as a portion of the income will be allocated to the same areas within the dairy sector.

The referendum would continue the original state assessment program, which was first established in 1957. The national beef checkoff assessment of one dollar per head will still be collected and will be used according to the guidelines set forth in federal law. According to Mr. Clark, "The national beef checkoff does a tremendous job of promoting beef and the beef industry, returning \$11.91 per dollar invested; however, these funds cannot be used for many of the production and regulatory-oriented issues facing the industry today. The North Carolina Cattle Industry Assessment Referendum would allow producers to continue to provide funds that would be controlled totally by the North Carolina beef and dairy producers to promote our product, our youth, our industry, and to provide research and advocacy to protect their way of life." Since the assessment was reinstated on January 1, 2010, research and education projects have been funded to deal with production issues facing North Carolina cattlemen in the areas of management, forage production, feed efficiency, and general input reductions. In addition, we have been able to provide additional services in issues management to help the public have a better understanding of our industry and training for farmers to help them to be more efficient and provide more research-based management for them and the cattle in their care. Youth programs have been a huge beneficiary of the investments from the assessment as we have been able to support livestock schools, judging contests, skillathon contests, leadership development, and the very popular youth beef industry tour, among many others.

Milo Lewis, executive director of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association, states that, "The assessment will be for a period of six years with a recurring referendum if requested. Also, Mrs. Lewis states that producers will be eligible for a full refund of their North Carolina assessment by request within 60 days of the sale of the animal with proof of sale. This is a provision that is not available in the national program due to federal law."

All cattle owners who are at least 18 years of age as of October 30, 2024, will be eligible to vote. Voting will take place at the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Anson County office (501 McLaurin St, Wadesboro) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Absentee ballots will also be available after October 1. All eligible voters must vote in their county of residence.



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South Piedmont to Host Open House Event on October 17

South Piedmont Community College welcomes prospective students to its Open House event on Thursday, October 17, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Old Charlotte Highway campus and Tyson Family Center for Technology, both in Monroe.

During the event attendees will be able to tour both locations, learn about financial aid options and the application process, meet faculty and staff, and take part in fun program demonstrations showcasing equipment used in everything from welding to surgical technology.

Did you know that manufacturing jobs are in high demand in both Union and Anson Counties? Now is the perfect time to explore fulfilling career paths offering impressive salaries. Discover the exciting range of manufacturing programs at South Piedmont!

The event is drop-in style.

Attendees will be entered to win a \$100 gift card if they register and check in at the event.

To register, visit events.spcc.edu.

To check in, you can see an SPCC admissions employee at the event.

We're here to answer all your questions. Come see how we can support you in reaching your goals!

The Old Charlotte Highway campus is located at 4209 Old Charlotte Highway. The Tyson Family Center for Technology is located at 3509 Old Charlotte Highway.




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Registration Ends on Wednesday, October 23 at 4:00pm
704-694-6616 Mon-Fri 8:30am to 5:00pm.



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