

NORTH DAKOTA

READY FOR FREEDOM

At the end of the day, after all the analysis, the surprise choice is the right choice – North Dakota!

Getting to Know North Dakota

The “Peace Garden State” enjoys a long border with Canada, part of the longest unfortified border in the world. The International Peace Garden straddles the border between North Dakota and Manitoba, but a more significant aspect of North Dakota’s international mindset is the livestock trade that comes down from Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Canadian ranchers frequently cross the border to weigh, sell, buy, and transport their livestock. Many of these ranchers are *Métis*, part-Indian, part-French, boasting a history of insurrection and derring-do, as well as functioning quasi-anarchist communities (read *Memoirs of Louis Riel!*)

The great prairies of North Dakota teem with wildlife, from fish and fowl in and on its lakes, to the unique “flickertail squirrel” that lives in burrows and is responsible for the state’s second name, “The Flickertail State.” North Dakota’s green grasslands also harbor ample game, including bighorn sheep, whitetail and mule deer, antelope, and moose.

North Dakota’s third nickname is “The Roughrider State.” The Roughriders who stormed San Juan Hill in 1898 counted among their number several North Dakota cowboys, including the most famous North Dakota cowboy of them all, Teddy Roosevelt. North Dakota’s national park is known as the Theodore Roosevelt National Park, encompassing the vast Badlands, with their almost fairy-land vistas. (Don’t believe North Dakota has “fairy-land vistas”? Check out www.ndtourism.com!)

Political Advantages

- Immediate impact on national politics: we could throw out three left-wing Democratic congressmen who are out of touch with North Dakota values
- Small population means ready influence: at 642,000 people, North Dakota is better than all but Wyoming and Alaska – North Dakota also has cheaper federal campaigns than *all other* FSP candidate states
- Borders the freedom-friendly provinces and states of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Montana, South Dakota, and wild northwestern Minnesota, providing opportunity to expand into a greater regional movement
- Static population means that North Dakotans would welcome us – as evidenced by the many news stories that North Dakota media have done on the Free State Project (do a search at news.google.com)
- State legislature controlled by conservative Republicans who are cutting state government
- North Dakota’s constitution is stronger than any other state’s in protecting county sovereignty (Article VII)

Political Advantages (cont.)

- North Dakota has term limits and small legislative districts (#1 for senate), as well as the best initiative, referendum, and recall laws of all our candidate states!
- North Dakota has counties with populations under 1,000 for those favoring a “free county” strategy (Slope, Billings)
- State Supreme Court judges are competitively elected, allowing us immediate access to the judiciary and preventing Montana’s nightmare scenario of a leftist judiciary’s effectively eliminating the initiative process – only Idaho shares this advantage
- No land-use planning, no helmet laws for adults, lowest level of liquor regulation, 2nd lowest level of health care mandates, average and improving in economic freedom measures, better than average in low level of urbanization
- Federal dependence is not a deal-breaker: most agricultural subsidies go to large agribusiness firms and are headed for extinction anyway – once they’re gone, ND will be free of its high dependence on federal government funds

Quality of Life

- North Dakota is a major agricultural exporter: with 40 million of its 44 million acres under cultivation, North Dakota boasts some of the most efficient wheat farms in the *world*
- 3rd best in amount of available private land, virtually no federal land ownership
- Extremely low cost of living: farmhouses are being sold on the Internet for under \$10,000!
- Fargo is bringing in IT firms – those of us who are tech-savvy will have jobs in ND
- Unlike most other Western states, ND has a surplus of water, and the land is green and the soil rich throughout the state
- Strong communities and culture of mutual aid and responsibility, fostered by strong Lutheran heritage, and evidenced in ND’s unique lack of voter registration!
- Climate is fast-changing rather than just “cold”: ND is quite warm in summer and much of spring and fall, and enjoys low humidity and an enormous amount of sunshine
- Natural beauty in Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Little Missouri National Grasslands, Sheyenne National Grasslands, Sully’s Hill National Game Preserves, and more national wildlife refuges than any other state in the U.S.

It is critical that we choose a low-population state where we can have a significant effect. **Of the low-population states, North Dakota is the best.** Unlike Vermont, North Dakota has a freedom-friendly population. Unlike Wyoming, North Dakota has a foreign border and a more accessible state government and welcoming citizenry, *including the most advantageous constitutional provisions of any candidate state!* Unlike Alaska, North Dakota is not isolated and has the capacity to influence national politics as well as the state politics of *both* the West and the Midwest. North Dakota occupies the heart of North America – North Dakota is where the next American revolution will begin!

North Dakota is ripe for the Free State Project – will we accept the opportunity?