

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
3/6/2015

Bills out of play

HB 1092 – This bill established a rural school teacher recruitment assistance program. Tabled in Appropriations Committee.

HB 1184 – This bill put numerous requirements on schools to provide information and venues for parental access to digital learning platforms. Failed in committee.

HB 1198 – This bill required the Legislature to approve the state assessment. Failed in committee.

HB 1207 – This bill revised certain provisions related to pension and capital outlay fund levies, including opt-out procedures for the capital outlay levy. Failed in committee.

HB 1223 – This bill required South Dakota to end its involvement with Common Core state standards by June 30, 2017. It failed in committee, but was “smoked out” (a legislative maneuver) and forced to the House floor. Enough of the members of the full body voted against placing it on their calendar for discussion, and it was never heard – effectively killing the bill.

Bills making their way through process

SB 134 – This bill prohibits minor boundary changes for one year and sets up a task force to study the issue.

SB 189 – This bill provides a tax credit to insurance companies that contribute to an organization providing educational scholarships to eligible students attending accredited, nonpublic schools.

Funding bills

With session winding down, the following funding bills are still in consideration. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.

SB 53 & 54 – Governor’s proposed funding bills for state aid to general education and special education. Both passed the Senate last week and are headed over to the House.

SB 92 – makes an appropriation to the South Dakota Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship program

SB 176 – provides for development of online resources and a rubric of textbook analysis for use in school districts

SB 181 – enhances higher education affordability by freezing or reducing tuition at the state’s postsecondary institutions (public universities and technical institutes)

HB 1147 – increases the amounts of the annual awards given to SD Opportunity Scholarship recipients

HB 1191 – makes an appropriation for the Jobs for America's Graduates program