

SOUTH DAKOTA COUNSELING ASSOCIATION
Week 2 Legislative Report
January 21, 2024

Week 2 of the Session is in the books, and we continue to move rather quickly. In fact, bills that have passed one house are already in the second house and being heard in committee. Very unusual for a session.

A major issue for your organization is HB 1012 – Interstate counseling licensure compact and revision of educational requirements to comply. Bill passed committee and passed the House 52-16. There were some unusual questions on the floor of the House, but Rep. Rehfeldt handled them beautifully. HB 1015 is the bill to adopt the social work licensure compact – passed committee and also passed the House 51-18. Bill is scheduled for hearing 1/22 (Monday) in Senate Health Committee.

Another bill that moved quickly was HB 1001 – repealer of the sunset date of 2027 on the 4.2% sales tax (bill that passed last year). Some people wanted to keep the cut permanent. It passed the House 54-12 but the Senate Appropriations Committee tabled the bill (killed it). It will be back in some form as the House is not happy with this action.

There are a number of Domestic Violence bills being introduced and I will highlight some of them for you. There also will be a money bill to help DV, neglected and abused children, and sexual assault victims. Bill is being worked on for an appropriation.

There will be a number of education bills that the education lobbyists and schools will deal with and I will try and list some of the most important ones.

SENATE BILLS

SB 1 – Adds counselors and vocational instructors to the statutes to be able to get reduced tuition for maximum of 6 hours – passed committee and passed Senate 30-3.

SB 2 – Repeals the dual credit statute passed last year – will return statute back to individual schools to determine credit for graduation – passed committee and passed Senate 33-0. Hearing on Monday 1/22 in House Education.

SB 27 – Modifies the criteria for removal from the sex offender registry – AG bill – basically cleanup and stating 10 years to get removed from Tier 1 list – amended back to 5 years and passed committee, passed Senate 33-0.

SB 47 – Revises the incentive for juvenile detention program to counties for success completion – passed committee and passed Senate 29-0. Hearing in House Judiciary Committee 1/22 - Monday

SB 61 – Repeal the Visitation Grant Advisory Group – DPS bill – passed committee, passed Senate 33-0.

SB 72 – Increases the insurance tax credit incentive bill for private schools to \$5 million – this is a voucher bill for private education – passed committee, passed Senate 25-7.

SB 79 – Revises provisions related to possession, distribution, and manufacture of child porn – Hearing in Senate Judiciary Committee on 1/23.

SB 91 – Revises sex offender residency restrictions to include private parks, playgrounds, and pools.

SB 94 – Bill amends Partners in Education Tax Credit Program – trying to put a gate down so no other businesses can try to start a like program and also lists some data on reporting who participates in program. Senate Commerce and we will have some questions on this insurance program tax incentive to offer private school vouchers.

SB 98 – Bill to establish the admissibility of evidence similar crimes in child molestation cases – bill will allow past molestation to be considered and defendant must be informed of the information. In Senate Judiciary

SB 100 – Prohibit the imposition of additional immunization requirements on children – Sen. Frye Muller bill we have seen before

SB 101 – Prohibit the conduct of certain physical exams or screenings on students in a school district without parental consent – another Sen. Frye Muller bill from years past

SB 103 – New Sen Hoffman bill on school safety – this is a mandate to have all open doors to a school monitored by a person or video viewing and talks about the tipline already in place at DPS – bill requires appropriation. Since he lost his first bill, he wants this one now.

HOUSE BILLS

HB 1012 – Adopt Interstate Counseling Licensure Compact and educational requirements – SUPPORT – passed House 52-16.

HB 1015 – Adopt the social work licensure compact – passed committee, passed House 51-18 and hearing in Senate Health on Monday 1/22

HB 1020 – Suicide training staff becomes part of accreditation now rather than certification, but schools are responsible for it- passed committee, passed House 69-0

HB 1022 – Provides \$ 6 million for literacy training for teachers – DOE bill – sent to the Joint Appropriations Committee

HB 1042 – Establishes parameters for reimbursement of school districts that provide free and reduced price meals to students/ needs appropriation – hearing on Monday in House Education 1/22

HB 1045 – Revises provisions to possession, manufacture, and distribution of child porn – withdrawn by sponsor

HB 1048 – DOE bill on target teacher salary bill – this needs a lot of work at present

HB 1066 – Provides incentives for people going into education – appropriation of \$300,000 – bill was killed/sent to 41st day 9-5

HB 1087 – Modifies definition of chins and delinquent child – passed committee 13-0 and is on the consent calendar in the House

HB 1088 – Removes the option for a court services officer to prepare documentation in an adoption proceeding – Chief Justice bill – has an amendment and passed committee 13-0

HB 1096 – SD Network bill that makes a temporary stalking order in effect until the permanent order is served – just like the law on protection orders

HB 1098 - Provides free birth certificates to person experiencing homelessness – House Health

HB 1123 – Allows for an action to establish paternity after age eighteen based on genetic test results