Bill Brief for HB1045 – An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to contract for the design, renovation of, and addition to, the E.Y. Berry Library on the campus of Black Hills State University and to make an appropriation therefor.

What does this bill do?

- This bill amends a previous authorization to renovate the E.Y. Berry Library on the campus of Black Hills State University, originally approved by House Bill 1051 in the 2012 legislative session, and adds authorization for a minor addition.

Why is it necessary?

- The E.Y. Berry Library was constructed in 1973. It needs upgrades to the original electrical, mechanical, and HVAC systems, which are still operating in the building today.
- This project aims to enhance student success at BHSU by providing space for a new Student Success Center, to include professional advising, tutoring, the math assistance center, the writing center, and a career center, all conveniently located in one location.
- This project addresses life safety issues by adding a fire suppression system and an ADA-compliant elevator.
- HB 1051 in the 2012 legislative session provided the original authorization for this project as part of the Board of Regents’ 10-year capital improvement bill. HB1051 authorized $3 million in HEFF bonds and $1.5 million of other funds, for a total of $4.5 million. Since 2012, the project now encompasses several critical building upgrades that will realize substantial savings if completed at the same time as the renovation. These upgrades are authorized through BHSU’s maintenance and repair allocations and are included in the total project funding.
- BHSU requests authorization to add a modest addition, not more than 5,000 gross square feet, to the second story of the building to accommodate student study space. This then allows BHSU to house a new Student Success Center on the first floor.

What is the status of the project?

- A preliminary design including conceptual floor plans, cost estimates, and space programming has been completed by the architects and approved by the Board of Regents. Once legislative authorization is received, the project will move into final design. The project would be bid in spring 2021 and completed by spring 2023.

What is the source of funds for this project?

- Higher Education Facilities Fund (HEFF) will provide the majority of funding for this project, with $3 million in revenue bonds, and the remaining $6.3 million from BHSU’s maintenance & repair allocations. SDCL 13-53-15.2 authorizes the use of HEFF for these purposes.
- The project funding also includes a small allocation for donated funds and energy efficiency savings.