Bill Brief for HB1046 – An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to contract for the design, renovation of, and addition to, the Devereaux Library on the campus of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and to make an appropriation therefor.

What does this bill do?

- The Devereaux Library on the campus of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology was first constructed in 1970, and renovations are needed.

- Major updates are necessary on the first and second floors to bring the building up to modern construction standards, to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, and to complete needed maintenance and repair.

- In consultation with the project's architect, it has been determined that an addition of no more than a 2,500 square feet would provide the ADA accessibility, with addition of an elevator, and reduce disruptions in the area of a recently renovated garden level.

Why is this necessary?

- Higher education libraries today are evolving into spaces that do not house as many books, but provide more student services and additional space for students and other library users to collaborate and support student success.

- This renovation is an opportunity to better utilize space and provide improved services to students. The goal is to help improve retention and graduation rates at SD Mines and support the 97 percent job placement rate of its graduates.

What fund sources will be used to pay for this renovation and addition?

- Higher education facilities funds (HEFF) will allow this project to proceed in the amount of $4 million of bonded funds and $1 million in maintenance and repair funds.