

Bill Brief for House Bill 1021 – An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to acquire property, contract for the design and construction of an athletics events center at Dakota State University, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency.

The Dakota State University Athletics Events Center is phase one of a three-phase athletics complex plan. It is the first new athletics facility built for DSU since 1957. At that time, the university had only 75 student athletes.

The Athletics Events Center Includes:

- Upgraded football stadium
- Relocated track
- Esports arena
- Indoor gathering space
- Athletics Hall of Fame
- Locker, weight & training rooms
- Office & shared meeting space
- Hospitality and VIP areas
- Media suites
- Biomechanics lab & classrooms
- Restrooms



Benefits of Athletics Events Center:

- Increased student enrollment.
 - Increase student athletes to +600. In 2016, DSU had 215 student athletes; in 2021, DSU had 471 student athletes.
- Balanced distribution of student athletes across academic majors.
- Increased revenue-generating opportunities for DSU and the greater Madison area.
- Business opportunities.
- Academic growth and additional programs.

Timeline:

- Construction on new track complex starts summer 2022, completed for spring 2023 season.
- New field turf football field completed and ready to play for fall 2023 season.
- New Athletics Events Center building completed end of calendar year 2023.

What the bill does:

- **Section 1:** Authorizes DSU to construct the elements of Phase 1 for an amount of \$28,047,000.
- **Section 2:** Appropriates other-fund expenditure authority of \$28,047,000 for the project.

- **Section 3:** Allows the project cost to be adjusted a maximum of 125% of the stated amount to account for inflation and other factors that might increase the cost of the project.
- **Section 4:** Allows the Board of Regents to accept funds for this project. Funds are guaranteed from the DSU Foundation through private donations.
- **Section 5:** Allows the Board of Regents to acquire necessary land for this project. Land is currently owned by the DSU Foundation and is adjacent to the current stadium.
- **Section 6, 7, 8 & 9:** These sections are standard terms in the authorization of building projects.
- **Section 10:** Emergency clause is necessary to allow DSU to begin construction this spring as opposed to waiting until July 1, 2022.