Bill Brief – House Bill 1060

Renovate Dakota Dome at University of South Dakota

What does this bill do?

• This bill authorizes the South Dakota Building Authority and the Board of Regents to finance renovation of the Dakota Dome at the University of South Dakota.

Why is it necessary?

• One of the state’s most recognizable, man-made landmarks, the Dakota Dome has served as a cornerstone of USD Coyote athletics for decades. Originally constructed in 1979, the 10,000-seat facility was one of the first multi-purpose domes in the country. Today, it serves as home for all Coyote athletic teams, with the exception of men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball.

• In addition to Coyote athletic teams and events, the Dakota Dome hosts many other events. Championship games of the state high school football playoffs take place annually inside the Dome. The annual high school All-Star Football Game is played each summer inside the Dome. The DAKOTA Farm Show has called the Dome home for more than 30 years. The facility also hosts community events such as camps, South Dakota junior football, high school track meets, and graduation ceremonies.

• The nearly 40-year-old building needs significant updates for mechanical and electrical replacement, HVAC, plumbing, fire alarm systems, restroom facilities, lighting and sound, locker rooms, meeting rooms, coaching offices, and support spaces. Renovation of the Dakota Dome to accommodate improvements allows USD to meet International Building and Fire Code requirements and will provide a safer facility for students, staff, faculty, and visitors.

What is the status of the project?

• Nine design firm proposals were received for the Dakota Dome renovation project. USD and the Office of State Engineer rank these, based on criteria established by the State Engineer. The top three firms with the most points based on these criteria will be interviewed onsite by a Building Committee for selection of one design firm for the project. The Office of State Engineer also sent out a Request for Qualifications for Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) services in early January; those qualifications were to be submitted back to state officials by Feb. 2.

What is the source of funds for this project?

• Funding for the project is $6,419,602 from university capital funds, $5,400,398 from Higher Education Facilities Fund’s (HEFF) maintenance and repair funds, and $14.5 million in bond proceeds, debt serviced with a private-fund commitment from the USD Foundation. Estimated total project costs for all program functions are $26.32 million (in FY2017 dollars).