

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Planning and Resource Development

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – I

DATE: March 30-April 1, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016 Legislative Overview

The 2016 South Dakota Legislature ended with Veto Day March 29, 2016. Major legislative achievements this session:

- Four of five bills filed on behalf of the Board of Regents were enacted. Bills passed were:
 - HB1016 – Revise the 2012 capital plan for construction improvements at SDSU and USD
 - SB10 – Authorize Harding Hall renovation and construction at SDSU
 - SB11 – Authorize land purchase from Dakota State University Foundation for IT building construction at DSU
 - SB12 – Authorize sale of extraneous property in Brookings County for the benefit for SDSU
- The budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, was adopted on the final day of the regular session March 11. Detail about approved budgets can be found in Board agenda items, *FY17 Budget Summary* and *FY16 General Bill Amendments*.
- A quick summary of key legislation this year follows:

At a Glance: 2016 Legislative Session

Passed and Signed by the Governor:

- Pays off South Dakota Building Authority bonds using one-time general funds and redirects scheduled bond payments to support a tuition freeze at the public universities and technical institutes; rolls the University Support Fee into tuition to maximize federal tuition assistance for National Guard and other military personnel; targets a larger tuition benefit to support continuing education for K-12 teachers and state employees. (HB1203)

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Information only.

- Revises General Appropriations Act for the current FY16 budget year. (SB48)
- FY17 General Appropriations Act. (SB172)

- Revises 2012 BOR Capital Plan to increase project amount for SDSU Performing Arts Center; moves \$1 million in bond proceeds from Patterson Hall to Science, Health and Research Laboratory projects at USD; and reduces total funding for the Science, Health and Research Lab at USD. (HB1016)
- Authorizes renovation and construction of Harding Hall addition at SDSU. (SB10)
- Authorizes purchase of land from the Dakota State University Foundation for use in constructing a new IT building at DSU. (SB11)
- Authorizes sale of extraneous real property for the benefit of SDSU. (SB12)

- Establishes a new retirement benefit structure for public employees who become members of the South Dakota Retirement System after July 1, 2017. (SB13)
- Creates the state Board of Internal Control. (SB162)
- Eliminates the Council on Higher Education Policy Goals, Performance, and Accountability and transfers its functions to the Legislative Planning Committee. (HB1136)

- Expands definition of public meetings to encompass teleconferences, including any held over the Internet. Specifies that an official meeting is any meeting of a quorum of a public body at which official business of that public body is discussed or decided, or public policy is formulated. (SB73)
- Increases from 24 hours to two intervening business days the requirement for advance public notice of public meetings. (HB1066)
- Ensures that no public body may prevent a person from recording, through audio or video technology, a public meeting open to the public as long as the recording is reasonable, obvious, and not disruptive. (SB90)

- Merges the Critical Need Teaching and Needs Based Scholarship endowments within the Education Enhancement Trust Fund to create one postsecondary scholarship grant fund. Appropriates \$3.3 million in one-time funds to the trust fund. Grants BOR authority to distribute interest earnings to meet program requirements per a Letter of Intent. (SB67)
- Provides 50 percent tuition benefit for K-12 teachers taking self-support courses for recertification or as a condition of employment. (HB1061)

- Extends the time period for which veterans may use tuition benefits at BOR institutions. (HB1163)
- Enables municipal licensing for wine and beer sales at special events at certain locations on the public university campuses, subject to policies established by BOR. (SB102)
- Grants limited immunity from arrest and prosecution for certain alcohol-related offenses to persons who are in need of emergency assistance or who assist another person in need of emergency assistance. (HB1078)
- Appropriates \$250,000 in “other funds” from the state’s Workforce Education Fund to the mathematics pilot project at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. (SB92)
- Revises state K-12 shared services, including provisions to expand course offerings through the Center for Statewide E-learning at Northern State University. (SB133)
- One-time appropriation of \$1.575 million for a design study of potential expansion and upgrades to the state Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory, located on the SDSU campus. (HB1080)
- Raises the commercial inspection fee for fertilizer to fund research through the Agricultural Experiment Station. (HB1094)
- One-time \$175,000 appropriation for SDSU faculty to study and recommend updates to methods used to determine agricultural land production capacity. (HB1007)
- Authorizes BOR to transfer real property to the SDSU Growth Partnership Limited for research park purposes. (SB103)

Tabled or Deferred to 41st Day (bill is lost):

- Repeal of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. (HB1001)
- Authorize construction of a science and mathematics building at NSU. (HB1017)
- Ensures “nondiscrimination” in matters of religious beliefs and moral convictions. (HB1107)