

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

AGENDA ITEM: 3 – G (3)

DATE: March 30-31, 2021

SUBJECT

Senate Bill 55 Task Force Update

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[Senate Bill 55](#)

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The state legislature passed Senate Bill 55 (SB 55) during the 2020 legislative session. The bill requires the Board of Regents to assemble a task force to examine possible program and administrative efficiencies at the six public universities. The task force is anticipated to establish its final recommendations by June 2021 in order that the Board can have an opportunity to review and incorporate them into its strategic planning work scheduled for August 2021 during its annual retreat. Task force findings will be presented to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Appropriations no later than November 15, 2021.

Past and Future Meetings of the Full Task Force:

- October 8, 2020 (Rapid City)
- November 12, 2020 (Vermillion)
- January 7, 2021 (Virtual – Optional University Foundations discussion)
- April 15, 2021 (Spearfish)
- May 13, 2021 (Sioux Falls)

Overview of Recent Activity

While it has been several months since the full SB55 Task Force has met, its subcommittees have been hard at work. Subcommittees met virtually during the legislative session period as did ad hoc groups within the subcommittees to dive into several specific issues.

The task force saw its first legislative win with the passage of [Senate Bill 134](#), an act to limit the required application of green building standards. This was a recommendation that came from one of the subcommittees and will influence efficiencies and cost savings soon after it goes into effect.

The next full meeting of the SB 55 Task force is scheduled for April 15 in Spearfish.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The SB 55 Task Force continues working on recommendations for their final report. Co-chairs of the subcommittees will be available for Board questions and comments during the Board meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM