

Dear SDSEO Member:

Wow, what a session. Things have been going pretty good for you, though I've been swamped. This session has seen the most bills introduced in the last 20 years or so. There are 339 House bills and 212 Senate bills. That's basically enough for two years of sessions. I can't imagine how it was tracking bills and amendments before the Internet and computing really got to going.

This session's Appropriations Committee budget hearing process was a rocket from the get go, and while normally we have the compensation and health plan hearing in a week or so, that hearing has already been held. I testified for you during it. Here is the audio archive...The BHR budget hearing ends at 30 minutes. The State Employee Compensation and Health Plan Hearing begins then. The SDSEO testifies following BHR in that hearing. Tune it at 2:43:40 to hear additional public testimony on the Health Plan: <https://sdpb.sd.gov/sdpbpodcast/2022/jap17.mp3>.

And here is the BHR presentation that goes with the Comp and Health Plan hearing: <https://mylrc.sdlegislature.gov/.../Attachment/231973.pdf>

Here are all the BHR hearing documents: <https://sdlegislature.gov/Budget/Documents/46?fbclid=IwAR2WabkqgX7b86jTqTxZYPwE4W-DmIxlKB7BBRnHUP1klZs7NAHQsOJINq0>

The day before the hearing, I put out a call on social media for state employee statements, and I got a bunch. I gave the committee all I received before 3 a.m. or so. That document is included here: <https://mylrc.sdlegislature.gov/api/Documents/232566.pdf>.

To help out with recruiting, I've attached SDSEO recruitment/info docs. (For the Investment Trust brochure, the Reinke Gray email contact is bettejo@reinkegray.com. They have changed their email address.)

We've added five new members the last two weeks. Lets' add a couple dozen new members in the next couple weeks. Spread the good word.

Make sure to let me know if you experience any problems at all as a state employee. Our Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/my.SDSEO/>. Our Facebook gets lots of traffic and comments, so try to check it out. Our Twitter handle: @MySDSEO

SDSEO 2022 bill list

Bill	Title	Explanation	Hearing Info
SB 22	revise a reference to the Division of Criminal Investigation.	Clean-up bill. Changes the inaccurate term "department" to "division."	Assigned to Senate Judiciary . Hearing 1/25/22. Passed 7-0; Passed Senate 35-0 on 1/27. To House.
SB 28	disqualify for life any person from driving a commercial vehicle who is	Does what the title says.	Assigned to Senate Transportation . Hearing 1/19/22.

	convicted of a felony offense involving human trafficking.		Passed 6-0. Passed Senate 32-0 on 01/20/22. To House. Passed House Transportation 13-0. Passed House on consent (unanimous) on 2/2. To Gov.
SB 30	add Juneteenth as a state holiday.	Would add Juneteenth (June 19) as a state holiday. Juneteenth is currently a federal holiday. A similar bill passed House and Senate. This bill was tabled.	Assigned to Senate State Affairs . Tabled on 1/26. A similar bill passed House and Senate. You'll have a new paid state holiday.
SB 31	make an appropriation to the Department of Labor and Regulation for the modernization of the reemployment assistance enterprise system and to declare an emergency.	This is about updating computers and tech in the unemployment system. The Legislature renamed unemployment as re-employment a few years ago. Here's the state's fact sheet on SB 31: SB 31 Fact Sheet	Assigned to Senate Appropriations and referred to Joint Appropriations .
SB 32	authorize the Department of Corrections to purchase certain real property, construct a community work center for offenders committed to the Department of Corrections, to make an appropriation therefor, transfer funds from the budget reserve fund, and to declare an emergency.	Would appropriate \$28 million to build a new prison in Rapid City. Here is the fact sheet on tit: SB 32 Fact Sheet	Assigned to Senate Appropriations and referred to Joint Appropriations .
SB 33	authorize the Department of Corrections to make healthcare improvements at the South Dakota Women's Prison, to make an	Would appropriate \$5.75 million for some health facility and mental health facility needs. Here's	Assigned to Senate Appropriations and referred to Joint Appropriations .

	appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency.	the fact sheet on it: SB 33 Fact Sheet	
SB 51	make an appropriation to support firefighter training equipment and recruitment efforts in the state, and to declare an emergency.	Does not appropriate funds for employee compensation. This is mostly about some new equipment and PR campaign for recruiting volunteer firefighters.	Assigned to Senate Appropriations and referred to Joint Appropriations .
SB 53	make an appropriation to increase workforce housing and to declare an emergency.	Not really about workforce housing but about putting \$200 million into "increasing housing supply across South Dakota."	Assigned to Senate Commerce and Energy . Eventually will move to Appropriations.
SB 56	revise certain provisions relating to the South Dakota Retirement System.	A clean-up bill. SDRS Fact Sheet here: SDRS Fact Sheet	Assigned to Senate Retirement Laws . Hearing on 1/26/22. Passed 4-0. Passed Senate 34-0 on 1/31. To House.
SB 57	add gaming enforcement agents to Class B membership of the South Dakota Retirement System.	Adds a handful of gaming enforcement agents in Dept of Revenue to Class B. SDRS Fact Sheet here: SDRS Fact Sheet	Assigned to Senate Retirement Laws . Hearing on 1/26/22. Passed 4-0. Passed Senate 34-0 on 1/31. To House.
SB 58	make an appropriation for the construction of a new state public health laboratory and the renovation of the existing laboratory and to declare an emergency.	Calls for putting about \$70 million into a new public health lab in Pierre.	Assigned to Senate Health and Human Services . Assigned to Joint Committee on Appropriations .
SB 60	revise the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2022.	Annual revision.	Assigned to Senate Appropriations and referred to Joint Appropriations .

SB 68	revise holiday pay for state employees.	Calls for employees to actually get paid for the hours they work on an observed holiday. SDSEO supports.	Assigned to Senate State Affairs. Passed 7-0 on 1/19/22. Passed Senate 32-0 on 1/20/22. To House State Affairs .
SB 70	modify the amount of time to report an injury for workers' compensation.	Would extend the initial deadline to file a report to 30 days from the current 3 business days. This bill failed but will be brought to the Workers Compensation Committee for possible action there.	Assigned to Senate Commerce and Energy . Sent to 41 st day (killed) on 01/20/22 on 8-1 vote.
SB 75	establish certain pay provisions for state employees working shifts longer than eight hours a day.	A bill similar to SB 68. The sponsor, Sen. Nesiba, likely will pull it or amend it depending on how SB 68 looks in the House.	Assigned to Senate State Affairs . Tabled 6-1 on 1/26. The SDSEO testified in favor of this bill and also supports SB 68.
SB 119	prohibit sexual contact between prison employees and prisoners.	This would amend a current statute. Intent seems to be to add a definition of sexual contact and include things a health practitioner might do. This bill seems pretty muddled as it is.	Assigned to Senate Judiciary . Hearing on 2/10/22.
SB 131	establish a formula for distributing general funds to Board of Regents universities.	This bill would change how funds are allocated to state universities. There will be lots of politicking on this bill because there will be	Assigned to Senate Education but moved to Joint Appropriations .

		winner and losers among the public universities.	
SB 141	establish provisions for the South Dakota Retirement System.	Hoghouse bill (Empty bill that might be used by being amended or might not.)	Assigned to Senate Retirement Laws .
SB 146	create the Office of Ombudsman for State Employees.	This bill calls for the formation of new office under the Legislature's Executive Board that would field and investigate state employee claims of illegality or impropriety. Reporting employee identity would be entirely shielded for anonymity from any entity but the Ombudsman. Would apply to the Executive Branch, not to the Unified Judicial System or to the Legislature itself.	Assigned to Senate State Affairs . Hearing on 2/09/22.
HB 1041	facilitate legislative oversight of settlement agreements involving a state entity or official.	Seeks to allow for Legislative review of settlement agreements.	Assigned to House Judiciary . Passed 11-0 on 1/21/22. To House.
HB 1055	require informational transparency regarding the issuance of executive orders.	Seeks to allow for Legislative review of executive orders from the governor.	Assigned to House State Affairs .

HB 1063	revise the approval process for state employee household moving allowances.	Changes the approver of moving allowances to the State Auditor. This should streamline the process.	Assigned to House State Affairs . Passed 13-0 on 1/21/22. To House.
HB 1106	provide for the security and privacy of certain personally identifiable information for judicial officers and to declare an emergency.	Calls for the removal of personal information such as address, email, phone number for judges from varieties of public information.	Passed the House and Senate on a fast track. Signed 2/8. To Governor.
HB 1213	clarify the Corrections Commission's ability to obtain criminal justice information.	Adds a possible requirement for police agencies to give information to the Corrections Commission.	To House Judiciary . Hearing on 2/09.
HB 1221	require training on human trafficking for law enforcement officers.	Does what it says.	To House Judiciary .
HB 1243	make an appropriation to the Board of Regents for a cost-of-living increase and to declare an emergency.	We've talked a lot about how not all Board of Regents employees get the "across the board" raises. That's because the universities don't get full funding for all employee salaries, as some are paid with federal and other funds. For a 6% raise for all in BOR, that would take about \$6.5 million. This bill would do that (it has \$10 million in it). But the bill is mostly about chastising	Sent to House Education who sent it on to House Appropriations .

		legislators about tuition and fee increase complaints.	
HB 1245	equalize the general fund appropriations appropriated to the Board of Regents.	Would be a new way to fund each public university. There would be winners and losers among the universities.	House Education . Had a hearing on 2/7 but didn't finish.
HB 1261	establish emergency retire-rehire provisions for the South Dakota Retirement System.	A bill changing SDRS law without going thru the SDRS system. It's been assigned to House State Affairs instead of Retirement Laws. It's usually not a good thing for legislators to go monkeying around on their own in complex systems like SDRS law.	House State Affairs
HB 1269	limit the deployment of the National Guard for federal service.	This regards "active-duty combat" only.	House Military and Veteran Affairs
HB 1290	prohibit lobbying by state officials and employees.	The target of this is state agencies and the governor's office. It would limit their ability to lobby and to hire outside lobbying firms.	House State Affairs
HB 1291	classify 911 telecommunicators as Class B members of the South Dakota Retirement System	This would add 911 operators to Class B retirement. 911 operators are commonly treated as "first responders" due to the mental demands of the job. Though this bill does	House Local Government

		not go thru Retirement Laws so will likely not pass, it's a worthy goal. Look for the off-session of the Retirement System to have plenty of discussions on adding to Class B.	
HB 1338	appropriate money for the ordinary expenses of the legislative, judicial, and executive departments of the state, the current expenses of state institutions, interest on the public debt, and for common schools.	The General Bill that will have all the new state funding at the end.	House Appropriations

Best,

Eric

Eric Ollila

Executive Director

South Dakota State Employees Organization

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