

*Important note: if there's a bill you think is important to cattlemen and it's not included on the tracking list below, please contact Jodie at the SDCA office immediately - 605.945.2333 or [executive@sd cattlemen.org](mailto:executive@sd cattlemen.org).*

"Crossover Day" has come and gone. Both the House and the Senate have successfully moved their respective bills to the "other side". It is important to note that, just because a bill made it to the other side, it's not necessarily clear sailing to Governor's desk. Every bill that has "crossed over" will face the same committee hearing/floor debated scrutiny that it faced in its house of origin.

While at some level getting past "crossover day" means we're on the down-hill stretch, the biggest hill is yet to be tackled and that is the budget. The word that is being whispered in the halls is "sweep". That's the process by which the legislative body will review budget balances by division, agency and/or fund; determine "unobligated" funds; and vote to "sweep" the funds to help cover budget deficits. Agriculture is not exempt from this procedure. Everyone is in the same boat. We'll all be watching the discussion very closely as proposals and amendments to the budget bill are brought forth. While this is not a common practice, it has and can be done. Everyone is looking for ways to keep their budgets whole or take the smallest "cut".

Last week's update provided an overview and update of **HB 1202**, which would provide for the assessment of some agricultural land as non cropland. Following brief comments by the bill's Senate prime sponsor, Jim Peterson, he asked that the bill be tabled. The issues raised will be reviewed as the productivity methodology is implemented and as refinements are addressed.

Following a very brief floor debate in the House, **HB 1113** which would have specified animal species for animal damage control under the ADC program, failed by a vote of 21- 48.

**HB 1187** prohibits the killing, injury, or interference with law enforcement support animals (such as police dogs) and establishes certain penalties regarding those actions, including a Class 6 felony. HB 1187 passed the House floor on a vote of 52-17.

**SB 75**, originally introduced to define certain terms for livestock identification purposes and tabled on the Senate floor, has a new title and purpose. SB75 was hog-housed by the Department of Ag and is now an Agritourism bill. In summary, this bill will add the definition of "Agritourism Activity" to SDCL 20-9-12 and also add Agritourism activities to the other pertinent sections 20-9-12 to 20-9-18. This current section of the law presently offers some liability protection for landowners where outdoor recreation occurs. As amended, the bill will offer landowners the same liability protection for agritourism activities.



In short, giving producers engaged in agritourism this protection through SB 75 will:

- Decrease the liability of people engaged in providing agritourism activities.
- Potentially decrease insurance rates for producers wishing to engage in agritourism activities.
- Allow for greater promotion of South Dakota's number one industry by creating the tie to tourism, another of South Dakota's top industries.

*Remidner: HOGHOUSE--a procedure occasionally used in the legislature whereby a committee or a member from the floor will move to strike everything after the enacting clause of a bill and insert in lieu thereof the substance of an entirely new bill.*

**Other bills of interest include:**

HB 1013 authorizes the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to accept certain documents submitted with electronic signatures. Signed by the Governor.

HB 1056 makes an appropriation from the coordinated natural resources conservation fund to the State Conservation Commission and to declare an emergency. Passed Senate Appropriations 7-0.

HB 1057 revises and updates certain provisions relating to dairy production and inspection. Passed the House floor 66-2.

HB 1058 restructures the South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission.  
Signed by the Governor.

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*SDCA members are encouraged to contact Jodie at the SDCA office at 605.945.2333 or [executive@sdcattlemen.org](mailto:executive@sdcattlemen.org) if you have any questions regarding SDCA's legislative issues.*

**Useful Contact Information:**

- SDCA Office: 605-945-2333
- House Lobby: 605-773-3851 (to leave a message for your Representative)
- Senate Lobby: 605-773-3821 (to leave a message for your Senator)
- *Additional information regarding the bills, legislative committees, etc. can be found on LRC's website at <http://legis.state.sd.us/index.aspx>.*