

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@sdcattlemen.org.

With the Session getting off to a slow start and only 2 legislative work days this week, the list of filed bills is still relatively short. We expect that to change dramatically next week with the new filing deadline on Tuesday in deference to Governor Janklow's funeral.

On Tuesday, January 10th, Governor Dugaard presented the State of the State address with opening comments "I'm pleased to say South Dakota's condition is improved since this time last year. South Dakota is moving forward. It is not the best of times, but neither is it the worst of times, and we have reason to be hopeful."

Highlights of the Governor's presentation included the "SD Wins - South Dakota Workforce Initiative". Noting that South Dakota has a quality of life that's second to none, the governor announced the launching *South Dakota Wins*, a workforce development program that brings together government, education and business leaders to capitalize on South Dakota's tremendous potential. The components of this program are designed to help South Dakota develop and attract a stronger, more educated workforce, positioning us well to compete in an ever changing a dynamic global economy. *South Dakota Wins* will better prepare young people for the future, all while providing immediate training to citizens so they can fill the positions already in our state. It will also work to improve access to rural health care and aggressively market South Dakota to attract new citizens and encourage the return of those who've moved away from our state. South Dakota is a strong and resilient state. We've always relied on ourselves - not others - to get the job done.

The Governor also highlighted his proposed "Investing in Teachers" package which demonstrates a commitment to education through a significant investment in 1) attracting and rewarding effective teachers, and 2) providing training and support to teachers and school leaders, as they move forward with changes to the current education system. Key to these changes is implementation of the Common Core standards through instructional practices as defined by the state's standards for teaching, and creation of a new statewide accountability model. Investing in Teachers aims to attract South Dakota's best and brightest to the teaching profession and to reward them for their efforts. In particular, the plan emphasizes the need for math and science teachers, to light the spark to ignite a generation of engineers, doctors and scientists. The proposal includes:

- \$3,500 rewards for math and science teachers
- \$5,000 rewards for top 20 percent of a district's teachers
- Annual evaluation for teachers
- Every other year evaluation for principals
- Tenure phased out; those who have it, keep it.



To support teachers and school administrators in the important work of implementing the Common Core, a statewide system of standards and evaluation for teachers and principals, and other critical components, the package includes extensive training over the next several years. Participants would be paid for their participation.

It is predicted that there will be bills introduced dealing with eminent domain, immigration, tax repeal, advertising requirements and others that will impact cooperatives and agriculture.

BILL INFORMATION:

HB 1003 which revises the limitation on the increases and decreases that may be made to the total taxable value of cropland and noncropland. As drafted the bill would extend by two years the date for implementation of the assessment as well as provide counties with addition levels of increases and decreases as they move forward. The percentages proposed are:

1. Fifteen percent in any year, if the county is less than thirty percent from its full agricultural income value;
2. Twenty percent in any year, if the county is thirty percent or more but less than fifty percent from its full agricultural income value; and
3. Twenty-five percent in any year, if the county is fifty percent or more from its full agricultural income value.

The legislation comes at the request of the Agricultural Land Assessment Implementation and Oversight Advisory Task Force. Passed House Ag Committee 12-0 with SDCA testified in support of the bill.

HB 1011 will revise the definition of domestic use of water. A recent court ruling put into question how domestic water can be used. SD Dept of Environment and Natural Resources is asking the legislature to clarify the definition of domestic use in state statute. The added language reads *“Use of water not exceeding eighteen gallons per minute on an average daily basis for livestock in a confinement operation, including water for drinking, sanitary and general welfare purposes and for like purposes by those caring for the livestock, is a domestic use.”* This change will provide clarification and put actual/typical practice into state law. Passed House Ag Committee 11-1 with SDCA testifying in support.

HB 1038 will increase the penalty for leaving the brand inspection area from a Class 2 to a Class 1. If passed the penalty is changed from the current 30 days imprisonment in a county jail or \$500.00 fine to 1 year in prison in the county jail or \$2,000.00 fine.

HB 1057 will revise provisions concerning the manner in which county wheel taxes are imposed by providing that the county may exempt all trailers, as defined in subdivision 32-3-1(23), from the wheel tax. Subdivision (23) defines a trailer as any vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property or passengers wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle.

HB 1083 will create term limits for brand board service by limiting a person to serve no more than nine consecutive years on the board.

HB 1084 revises the political qualifications for brand board membership by removing the restriction that “no more than three of the members shall be of any one political party.”

HB 1085 revise the residency requirements of the brand board membership by requiring that “all” members of the board shall reside in the livestock ownership inspection areas.

HB 1087 seeks to limit the terms of certain conservation easements by restricting all conservation easement created after July 1, 2012, to a period of no more than thirty years.

Other bills of interest:

HB 1013 repeal certain obsolete statutes regarding the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Passed House Ag Committee 11-1.

HB 1020 authorize the Department of Game, Fish and Parks to sell the Marcotte Tract located within the Marcotte Game Production Area in Meade County to the City of Sturgis. Passed House State Affairs 13-0.

HB 1037 revise the purpose of the agriculture mediation program.

HB 1070 revises provisions relating to the certificate of health requirement for the importation of animals.

HB 1074 exempts certain counties from restrictions relating to the taking of muskrats by adding Brown, Day, Marshall and Spink counties.

HB 1080 waive certain licensure requirements got out-of state hunters to hunt raccoon, skunk, badger, jackrabbit, fox, and coyote with a firearms.

HB 1081 revise certain provisions relating to the killing of any mountain lion to protect human life, livestock, or pets by restricting GF&P from confiscating the mountain lion carcass.

HB 1082 provide certain exceptions to Department of Game, Fish and Parks promulgated rules pertaining to the taking of mountain lions.

SB 7 repeal certain provisions allowing for the certification of technology parks and to allow public or private developers to apply for certification.

SB 17 require certain fuel tax returns and reports to be filed by electronic means and to require certain fuel taxes to be remitted by electronic transfer.

SB 22 revise certain provisions regarding the vacation or the change of location of county and township highways on school and public lands.

SB 35 update certain citations to federal regulations and increase certain civil penalties regarding pipeline safety inspection.

SB 37 make an appropriation from the coordinated soil and water conservation fund to the State Conservation Commission and to declare an emergency.

SB 40 permit a county to authorize temporary fencing within rights-of-way subject to its jurisdiction.

SB 45 appropriate additional funds and to extend the availability of appropriations to replace storage facilities at the Cottonwood Agricultural Experiment Station.

SB 49 revise the property tax levies for the general fund of a school district.

SB 55 update certain provisions pertaining to motor carrier safety and transportation of hazardous materials.

SDCA members are encouraged to contact Jodie at the SDCA office at 605.945.2333 or 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>.*