

A decorative graphic consisting of a series of small, light-colored dots arranged in a path that curves upwards and to the right, resembling a stylized arrow or a path leading towards the top right of the page.

2025

South Dakota State Legislative Scorecard

See how Members of South Dakota's State
Legislature are voting on economic growth issues.



Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of the legislators who serve in state legislatures. This is part of a larger scorecard project that the Club for Growth Foundation has created to educate the public about the economic positions taken by legislators in states across the country.

Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION
EDUCATES THE
PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-
GROWTH POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION
CONDUCTS
COMPREHENSIVE
EXAMINATIONS OF
VOTING RECORDS.

THE FOUNDATION'S
GOAL IS TO INFORM
THE PUBLIC AND
BRING AWARENESS
TO LAWMAKERS.

Methodology | South Dakota 2025

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of South Dakota’s elected state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker’s record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

The Foundation examines legislative votes related to the Club’s immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limited government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing term limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examines votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation, and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
RANKINGS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN SOUTH DAKOTA IN 2025

The Foundation’s study examined over 675 floor votes and, in the end, included 18 South Dakota House votes and 17 South Dakota Senate votes.

COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted – signified as an “X” on the scorecard – though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker’s position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an “I”.

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from ties, lawmakers with 0%

scores are, by default, ranked #70 in the House and #35 in the Senate if all lawmakers are present. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a “Lifetime Score” for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2025 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases, “n.a.” for “not applicable” appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with “n.a.” listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without “n.a.” years may be misleading.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the South Dakota House and South Dakota Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker’s work in committee, advocacy in his party’s caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating pro-growth policies.

“Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity.”

- DAVID McINTOSH
PRESIDENT, CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

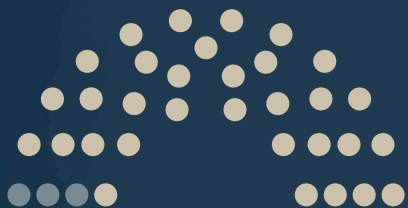
SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
RANKINGS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS



35 MEMBERS

South Dakota Senate Snapshot

32 Republicans

3 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 47%

Average Democrat Score: 12%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

John Carley (SD-29) | 81%

Taffy Howard (SD-34) | 81%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Sydney Davis (SD-17) | 24%

Helene Duhamel (SD-32) | 24%

Stephanie Sauder (SD-4) | 24%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Red Dawn Foster (SD-27) | 21%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Elizabeth Larson (SD-10) | 4%

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-time	HB1024	HB1036	HB1040	HB1046	HB1092	HB1132	HB1235	HCR6002	HCR6008	HJR5001	SB24	SB28	SB31	SB177	SB190	SB216	SB220	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	4	7	
Beal, Arch	SD-12	R	56%	61%	-	-	5	7	-	9	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	7	4	-	9
Blanc, Greg	SD-35	R	66%	66%	-	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	7	4	-	6
Carley, John	SD-29	R	81%	81%	-	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	X	4	-	6	4	7	4	7	1
Crabtree, Casey	SD-08	R	47%	44%	-	-	-	7	-	-	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	-	-	4	-	14
Davis, Sydney	SD-17	R	24%	33%	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	30
Deibert, Randy	SD-31	R	30%	30%	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	26
Duhamel, Helene	SD-32	R	24%	22%	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	30
Foster, Red Dawn	SD-27	D	21%	16%	-	-	-	7	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	4	-	33
Grove, Tamara	SD-26	R	39%	39%	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	18
Hohn, Joy	SD-09	R	53%	53%	-	-	5	7	4	9	-	X	6	9	-	-	-	4	7	-	-	12
Howard, Taffy	SD-34	R	81%	76%	5	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	4	-	1
Hulse, Amber	SD-30	R	45%	45%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	4	6	9	4	-	6	-	-	4	-	16
Jensen, Kevin	SD-16	R	46%	48%	-	-	5	X	-	9	-	4	6	9	-	X	-	4	-	4	-	15
Karr, Chris	SD-11	R	55%	50%	-	-	5	7	4	9	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	7	-	-	10
Kolbeck, Steve	SD-02	R	36%	36%	-	-	5	7	-	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	20
Lapka, Mark	SD-23	R	45%	45%	-	-	X	7	-	9	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	16
Larson, Elizabeth	SD-10	D	4%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	35
Lucas-Peterson, Sue	SD-13	R	76%	67%	X	-	5	7	-	9	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	4	-	4
Marty, Sam	SD-28	R	63%	69%	-	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	-	-	4	-	4	-	7
Mehlhaff, Jim	SD-24	R	36%	36%	-	-	5	7	-	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	20
Miskimins, Paul	SD-20	R	29%	36%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	28

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	4	7	
Nelson, Lauren	SD-18	R	55%	55%	-	-	5	7	4	9	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	7	-	-	10
Otten, Ernie	SD-06	R	48%	46%	-	-	5	7	-	9	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	13
Perry, Carl	SD-03	R	33%	45%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	23
Pischke, Tom	SD-25	R	77%	72%	5	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	-	-	3
Reed, Tim	SD-07	R	30%	33%	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	26
Rohl, Michael	SD-01	R	38%	36%	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	4	4	6	-	-	4	-	19
Sauder, Stephanie	SD-04	R	24%	24%	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	30
Schoenfish, Kyle	SD-19	R	32%	31%	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	24
Smith, Jamie	SD-15	D	12%	29%	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	34
Vilhauer, Glen	SD-05	R	29%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	28
Voight, Curt	SD-33	R	63%	63%	-	-	5	7	-	X	7	4	6	9	4	-	-	4	7	4	-	7
Voita, Mykala	SD-21	R	72%	72%	-	-	5	7	4	9	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	-	-	5
Wheeler, David	SD-22	R	32%	35%	-	8	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	24
Zikmund, Larry	SD-14	R	36%	28%	-	-	5	7	-	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	20

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

HB 1024

NEW STATEWIDE FEES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a slew of new fees collected by the Secretary of State. Specifically, the legislation implements roughly 65 new fees, including a \$750 fee for an application for a certificate of authority, a \$150 fee for articles of incorporation, a \$125 fee for a statement of authority, a \$55 fee for filing an annual report, and a \$20 fee for a certificate of existence. If the Annual Report Filing Fee Fund has more than \$50,000 at the end of the year, the funds are transferred to the state general fund. These fees are little more than a bureaucratic revenue grab designed to perpetuate the bureaucracy at the expense of entrepreneurs and hardworking families. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 63-7, on February 18, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 32-2, on February 27, 2025.

HB 1036

NEW RESERVE FUND MANDATE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

The bill mandates increased general fund spending if certain reserve fund thresholds are not met. Specifically, the legislation requires that the combined balance of the state’s two budget reserve funds must equal 10 percent of General Fund appropriations for the succeeding year. If such thresholds are not met, the Legislature is mandated to transfer one-third of the reserve fund gap below 10 percent from the General Fund to the reserve funds over the next three fiscal years until the 10 percent mandate is achieved. Couched in the name of “fiscal responsibility,” this requirement effectively operates as a mandate to increase annual spending baselines and pour increased taxpayer resources into slush funds designed to perpetuate programmatic spending. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 53-17, on February 24, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-4, on March 4, 2025.

HB 1040

MODEST SUBSIDY REDUCTION

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill reduces spending in a state program. Specifically, the legislation reduces the cost-share for the state’s dual credit subsidy program from its existing two-thirds to a 50 percent split with students. This means that program participants will pay \$75 per credit hour, up from the previous \$50 per credit hour. Estimates suggest this new subsidy reduction will save taxpayers some \$1.2 million on an annual basis. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 56-14, on February 25, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 23-11, on March 6, 2025.

HB 1046

SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING REVISIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill reduces overall FY2025 spending. Specifically, the legislation reduces total FY2025 spending by \$74.6 million. This includes a \$34 million reduction in the Department of Social

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

Services and the Department of Human Services, a \$25.1 million reduction in both Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program spending, and the elimination of \$31.6 million in Medicaid expansion set-asides due to diminished enrollment in the fraud-prone program. While numerous other state programs receive spending increases in this supplemental, this bill significantly reduces the topline FY2025 spending number. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 64-6, on March 13, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-3, on the same day.

HB 1092

NEW TEACHER SUBSIDY PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a new taxpayer-funded stipend. Specifically, the legislation creates a \$500,000 subsidized grant program to provide stipends for student teachers. A school district or department-accredited school is capped at \$5,000 in total annual funds for the stipend and must pay it out to at least one student teacher. Lawmakers should refrain from empowering government programs that reward hand-selected professions with taxpayer resources

at the expense of hardworking families. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 59-11, on February 24, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 25-10, on February 27, 2025.

HB 1132

EXPANDED GOVERNMENT CHILD CARE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands a government child care program in South Dakota. Specifically, the legislation expands the child care assistance program from an income-based threshold to prioritize children of child care workers. The bill includes no appropriation and threatens to expand a relatively tightly-focused welfare program into a permanent workforce subsidy program that supercharges annual spending. Estimates suggest that if even half of the state’s childcare workers enroll in the expansion, taxpayers will be on the hook for an additional \$40 million on an annual basis. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 39-31, on February 19, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 20-14, on March 4, 2025. Governor Rhoden vetoed the bill.

HB 1235

NEW PROPERTY TAX INCREASE LIMIT

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements a cap on annual property tax increases. Specifically, the legislation limits local taxing districts to the lesser of 2.5 percent or the change in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This 2.5 percent cap does not apply to school districts, bond payments subject to referenda, scheduled payment increases on bonds, or court-ordered judgments against a taxing district. While not transformative, the imposition of an annual cap provides much-needed certainty for homeowners and property managers. Lawmakers should continue to make tax increases more difficult as hardworking families continue to struggle with persistent inflation and high costs due to profligate federal spending. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 39-31, on February 25, 2025. The South Dakota Senate rejected it, 13-21, on March 10, 2025.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

HCR 6002

ELIMINATING PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This resolution calls on the President to roll back federal requirements for project labor agreements. Specifically, the legislation calls for the revocation of Executive Order 14063 and new legislation that prohibits project labor mandates, which require pre-hire collective bargaining agreements with labor unions for federal projects. South Dakota is a right-to-work state, and such policies discriminate against capable non-unionized workers to reward union bosses. Unions routinely act as political enforcers for far-left activists and causes, and this resolution aims to further curb the ability of union bosses to accumulate resources and power at the expense of hardworking South Dakotans. The South Dakota House passed the resolution, 63-5, on February 12, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-2, on February 21, 2025.

HCR 6008

AMTRAK EXPANSION RESOLUTION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This resolution calls for Congress and the President to support a new Amtrak line through South Dakota. Specifically, the legislation argues that South Dakota is the only state without Amtrak rail and advocates for a new line through Rapid City, Pierre, and Sioux Falls. Amtrak receives exorbitant federal taxpayer subsidies, recently ran a \$1.8 billion deficit in 2024, and outside of the Northeast Corridor, has never been profitable. Further, Amtrak accounts for fewer than 0.1 percent of passenger miles traveled. A new line will not result in meaningful economic gains for South Dakota, but will definitely saddle taxpayers with hundreds of millions in new government spending, debt, and long-term maintenance, while rewarding labor unions. The South Dakota House passed the resolution, 49-21, on February 19, 2025. The South Dakota Senate rejected it, 17-18, on March 3, 2025.

HJR 5001

CURBING MEDICAID EXPANSION (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the state constitution on Medicaid. Specifically, the legislation prohibits the state from imposing stricter eligibility limits for Medicaid than what is provided under federal statute; however, the resolution would provide for a work requirement for anyone enrolled in Medicaid who has not been determined as mentally or physically disabled. This would effectively rescind the state Medicaid expansion to healthy adults. South Dakota unwisely expanded the fraud-prone and costly Medicaid program to able-bodied adults in 2022. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving South Dakotans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The South Dakota House passed the joint resolution, 59-7, on January 21, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-3, on March 3, 2025.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

SB 24

ONEROUS PLUMBING LICENSING AND FEE SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes significant new licensing and inspection fees. Specifically, the legislation empowers the State Plumbing Commission to promulgate new regulations that impose higher application, examination, and licensing fees across the state. These onerous revenue grabs include fees ranging from \$30 for license verification to \$300 for a license or license renewal for plumbers. Additionally, the bill imposes exorbitant inspection fees against taxpayers ranging from \$125 for a single-family home to \$325 for a multi-family unit or complex. This bill is the product of the Commission lobbying the legislature on its own behalf to bolster its revenue and justify its own existence under the guise of improving service. This is a tax increase by another name. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 54-16, on March 4, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 25-10, on February 12, 2025.

SB 28

BURDENSOME BARBERING LICENSING SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill perpetuates costly licensing schemes for barbers. Specifically, the legislation continues and imposes exorbitant fees on barbering practices through the Board of Barber Examiners, including a \$300 certificate of registration, a \$300 annual renewal fee, a \$600 annual permit to operate a barber school, and a \$150 annual inspection fee. Onerous occupational licensing schemes create barriers to entry that disproportionately affect lower-income populations. Instead of creating new licensing bureaucracies to regulate further and tax hardworking South Dakotans, lawmakers should reduce and eliminate these obstacles. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 62-7, on March 6, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 32-2, on February 19, 2025.

SB 31

NEW ELECTRICAL COMMISSION FEES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes significant new inspection fees. Specifically, the legislation empowers the

State Electrical Commission to promulgate new regulations that impose installation fees across the state. These onerous revenue grabs include a \$390 fee for new residential installations and service connections, a \$65 fee for circuit installations, a \$150 inspection fee for every apartment in a complex, a \$250 fee for wiring permit procedures, and a minimum fee of \$150 if inspection calculations total less than \$100. This bill is the product of the Commission lobbying the legislature on its own behalf to bolster its revenue and justify its own existence under the guise of improving service. This is a tax increase by another name. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 55-15, on March 4, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 27-8, on February 12, 2025.

SB 177

CRONY DATA CENTER TAX HANDOUT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides significant tax incentives for data centers. Specifically, the legislation provides qualified corporations a tax refund on state sales taxes for software, information technology equipment, and other capital

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

expenditures for up to 20 years. Additionally, determination for eligibility is put in the hands of the commissioner of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, creating an obvious incentive for dealmaking that rewards well-connected entities. Economic development handouts to attract massive corporate data centers are a textbook case of the government putting the interests of well-connected companies above those of hardworking citizens. The South Dakota Senate rejected the bill, 17-18, on February 13, 2025. The South Dakota House did not take it up.

SB 190

NEW SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill creates a new tax credit to fund a statewide school choice program. Specifically, the legislation allows property owners to claim a property tax credit equal to 80 percent of the total amount of school district taxes owed for the year and equal to 80 percent of a student’s per-pupil allocation. These credits may be used for tuition, textbooks, tutoring, transportation, and other eligible education expenses so that

a child can attend a school of his or her choice. Further empowering parents, not government schools and bureaucrats, is the best way to provide quality education for students stuck in failing school systems. The South Dakota Senate rejected the bill, 11-24, on February 13, 2025. The South Dakota House did not take it up.

SB 216

GOVERNOR’S MODEST PROPERTY TAX PACKAGE

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements modest property tax reforms. Specifically, the legislation caps county assessments at 3 percent for homeowners for the next five years, imposes a 3 percent cap on the amount that taxing districts and school capital outlay budgets can increase rates, and implements a temporary property tax freeze for homeowners with household income below \$55,000. Additionally, the changes will require municipalities to reduce or freeze local spending to offset the new property tax caps. While relatively uninspiring, this proposal provides some certainty and

relief for hardworking families as lawmakers consider stronger policy proposals to lower the state’s tax burden. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 53-16, on March 10, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 29-6, on March 11, 2025.

SB 220

MISSED OPPORTUNITY BUDGET AGREEMENT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates spending for the annual budget. Specifically, the legislation spends \$7.3 billion in total federal and state funds for the FY2026 fiscal year, a \$5 million decrease from total FY2025 spending levels. However, the bill increases state General Fund spending by \$53 million, equal to a 2.2 percent increase year-over-year. Further, the bill increases state spending from outside the General Fund by 3 percent year-over-year, highlighting that the relatively flat overall numbers stem from diminished federal stimulus money from the COVID era. Additionally, the package includes a 1.25 percent across-the-board pay increase for state employees, a 2.8 percent increase

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | Senate Vote Descriptions

in state Medicaid spending, a 2.5 percent increase in state education spending, and rejects a previously-proposed \$3.6 million cut for taxpayer-funded South Dakota Public Broadcasting. This was a missed opportunity to significantly reduce the state spending baseline. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 59-11, on March 13, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 34-1, on the same day.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS



70 MEMBERS

South Dakota House Snapshot

64 Republicans

6 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 52%

Average Democrat Score: 10%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Aaron Aylward (HD-6) | 100%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Roger DeGroot (HD-7) | 21%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Peri Pourier (HD-27) | 57%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Erin Healy (HD-10) | 0%

Erik Muckey (HD-15) | 0%

Nicole Uhre-Balk (HD-32) | 0%

Kadyn Wittman (HD-15) | 0%

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-time	HB1024	HB1036	HB1040	HB1046	HB1092	HB1132	HB1166	HB1185	HB1235	HCR6002	HCR6008	HJR5001	SB24	SB28	SB31	SB216	SB220	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	
Andera, Bobbi	HD-010	R	68%	68%	-	8	5	7	4	9	5	-	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	15
Arlint, Amber	HD-012	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Auch, Julie	HD-018	R	74%	74%	-	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	12
Aylward, Aaron	HD-006	R	100%	89%	5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	1
Bahmuller, Jessica	HD-019	R	47%	47%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	32
Bathke, Jeff	HD-020	R	29%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56
Baxter, Heather	HD-034	R	87%	87%	-	8	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	5
Czmowski, Tim	HD-006	R	42%	42%	-	-	5	7	-	9	I	I	7	I	-	I	-	-	-	4	-	35
Degroot, Roger	HD-007	R	21%	21%	-	-	-	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	-	-	X	-	4	-	65
Derby, Mike	HD-034	R	41%	45%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	36
Duffy, Steve	HD-032	R	49%	49%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	31
Emery, Eric	HD-26A	D	5%	5%	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
Fitzgerald, Mary	HD-031	R	44%	50%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	X	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	33
Garcia, Josephine	HD-005	R	63%	63%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	7	19
Goodwin, Tim	HD-030	R	36%	55%	-	-	-	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	43
Gosch, Spencer	HD-023	R	67%	71%	5	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	4	-	6	-	-	16
Greenfield, Lana	HD-022	R	41%	47%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	36
Halverson, Jim	HD-021	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Hansen, Jon	HD-025	R	66%	64%	-	-	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	17
Healy, Erin	HD-010	D	0%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
Heermann, Mellissa	HD-007	R	29%	29%	-	-	-	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-time	HB1024	HB1036	HB1040	HB1046	HB1092	HB1132	HB1166	HB1185	HB1235	HCR6002	HCR6008	HJR5001	SB24	SB28	SB31	SB216	SB220	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	
Heinemann, Leslie	HD-025	R	53%	53%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	29
Hughes, John	HD-013	R	60%	60%	-	-	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	25
Hunt, Jana	HD-28A	R	86%	86%	-	8	-	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	7	6
Ismay, Travis	HD-28B	R	85%	85%	-	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	4	-	6	4	7	7
Jamison, Greg	HD-012	R	41%	50%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	36
Jensen, Phil	HD-033	R	85%	80%	5	8	-	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	4	4	6	4	7	7
Jordan, Dylan	HD-004	R	91%	91%	5	8	-	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	4
Jorgenson, Terri	HD-029	R	41%	41%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	36
Kassin, Chris	HD-017	R	29%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56
Kayser, Tony	HD-014	R	56%	56%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	28
Kolbeck, Jack	HD-013	R	37%	38%	-	-	5	-	-	9	5	-	7	4	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	42
Kull, David	HD-002	R	30%	30%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	53
Ladner, Trish	HD-030	R	34%	47%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Lems, Karla	HD-016	R	62%	62%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	20
Manhart, Logan	HD-001	R	95%	95%	-	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	2
Massie, Curt	HD-033	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
May, Liz	HD-027	R	58%	68%	-	-	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	X	-	-	-	-	-	26
Moore, Scott	HD-023	R	25%	25%	-	-	-	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	63
Mortenson, Will	HD-024	R	43%	51%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	34
Muckey, Erik	HD-015	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
Mulally, Tina	HD-035	R	79%	69%	-	8	5	7	-	9	X	6	7	X	-	9	4	-	6	4	7	10

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-time	HB1024	HB1036	HB1040	HB1046	HB1092	HB1132	HB1166	HB1185	HB1235	HCR6002	HCR6008	HJR5001	SB24	SB28	SB31	SB216	SB220	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	
Mulder, Brian	HD-011	R	41%	41%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	36
Nolz, Kaley	HD-020	R	64%	64%	-	8	5	7	-	9	5	-	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	18
Novstrup, Al	HD-003	R	51%	46%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	-	4	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	30
Odenbach, Scott	HD-031	R	62%	62%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	20
Overweg, Marty	HD-021	R	62%	61%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	-	-	-	-	20
Peterson, Drew	HD-019	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Pourier, Peri	HD-027	D	57%	47%	5	8	5	7	-	-	5	-	7	4	-	-	4	4	6	X	-	27
Randolph, Tony	HD-035	R	94%	86%	5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	4	4	6	4	7	3
Reder, Christopher	HD-001	R	81%	81%	-	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	-	9	4	-	6	-	7	9
Rehfeldt, Taylor	HD-014	R	23%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	64
Reimer, Rebecca	HD-26B	R	27%	46%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	X	-	-	-	4	-	62
Reisch, Timothy	HD-008	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Rice, Kathy	HD-029	R	71%	71%	-	8	5	7	-	-	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	-	6	4	-	13
Roby, Matt	HD-005	R	29%	29%	-	-	-	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56
Roe, Kent	HD-004	R	30%	30%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	53
Schaeffbauer, Brandei	HD-003	R	70%	70%	-	8	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	-	-	-	-	14
Schwans, Tesa	HD-009	R	62%	62%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	20
Shorma, William	HD-017	R	29%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56
Sjaarda, John	HD-002	R	62%	62%	-	-	5	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	-	-	-	4	-	20
Soye, Bethany	HD-009	R	79%	74%	-	8	-	7	-	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	-	10
Stevens, Mike	HD-018	R	34%	33%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-time	HB1024	HB1036	HB1040	HB1046	HB1092	HB1132	HB1166	HB1185	HB1235	HCR6002	HCR6008	HJR5001	SB24	SB28	SB31	SB216	SB220	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	
POINTS					5	8	5	7	4	9	5	6	7	4	6	9	4	4	6	4	7	
Uhre-Balk, Nicole	HD-032	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
Van Diepen, Kevin	HD-022	R	29%	29%	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	56
Vasgaard, Richard	HD-017	R	34%	36%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Venhuizen, Tony	HD-013	R	n/a	n/a	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	9	I	I	I	I	I	
Walburg, Tim	HD-008	R	34%	34%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	4	-	44
Weems, Keri	HD-011	R	40%	40%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	6	4	-	41
Weisgram, Mike	HD-024	R	30%	32%	-	-	5	7	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	53
Wittman, Kady	HD-015	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE
VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

HB 1024

NEW STATEWIDE FEES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a slew of new fees collected by the Secretary of State. Specifically, the legislation implements roughly 65 new fees, including a \$750 fee for an application for a certificate of authority, a \$150 fee for articles of incorporation, a \$125 fee for a statement of authority, a \$55 fee for filing an annual report, and a \$20 fee for a certificate of existence. If the Annual Report Filing Fee Fund has more than \$50,000 at the end of the year, the funds are transferred to the state general fund. These fees are little more than a bureaucratic revenue grab designed to perpetuate the bureaucracy at the expense of entrepreneurs and hardworking families. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 63-7, on February 18, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 32-2, on February 27, 2025.

HB 1036

NEW RESERVE FUND MANDATE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

The bill mandates increased general fund spending if certain reserve fund thresholds are not met. Specifically, the legislation requires that the combined balance of the state's two budget reserve funds must equal 10 percent of General Fund appropriations for the succeeding year. If such thresholds are not met, the Legislature is mandated to transfer one-third of the reserve fund gap below 10 percent from the General Fund to the reserve funds over the next three fiscal years until the 10 percent mandate is achieved. Couched in the name of "fiscal responsibility," this requirement effectively operates as a mandate to increase annual spending baselines and pour increased taxpayer resources into slush funds designed to perpetuate programmatic spending. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 53-17, on February 24, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-4, on March 4, 2025.

HB 1040

MODEST SUBSIDY REDUCTION

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill reduces spending in a state program. Specifically, the legislation reduces the cost-share for the state's dual credit subsidy program from its existing two-thirds to a 50 percent split with students. This means that program participants will pay \$75 per credit hour, up from the previous \$50 per credit hour. Estimates suggest this new subsidy reduction will save taxpayers some \$1.2 million on an annual basis. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 56-14, on February 25, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 23-11, on March 6, 2025.

HB 1046

SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING REVISIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill reduces overall FY2025 spending. Specifically, the legislation reduces total FY2025 spending by \$74.6 million. This includes a \$34

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

million reduction in the Department of Social Services and the Department of Human Services, a \$25.1 million reduction in both Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program spending, and the elimination of \$31.6 million in Medicaid expansion set-asides due to diminished enrollment in the fraud-prone program. While numerous other state programs receive spending increases in this supplemental, this bill significantly reduces the topline FY2025 spending number. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 64-6, on March 13, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-3, on the same day.

HB 1092
NEW TEACHER SUBSIDY PROGRAM
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a new taxpayer-funded stipend. Specifically, the legislation creates a \$500,000 subsidized grant program to provide stipends for student teachers. A school district or department-accredited school is capped at \$5,000 in total annual funds for the stipend and must pay it out to at least one student teacher. Lawmakers should refrain from empowering

government programs that reward hand-selected professions with taxpayer resources at the expense of hardworking families. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 59-11, on February 24, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 25-10, on February 27, 2025.

HB 1132
EXPANDED GOVERNMENT CHILD CARE
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands a government child care program in South Dakota. Specifically, the legislation expands the child care assistance program from an income-based threshold to prioritize children of child care workers. The bill includes no appropriation and threatens to expand a relatively tightly-focused welfare program into a permanent workforce subsidy program that supercharges annual spending. Estimates suggest that if even half of the state’s childcare workers enroll in the expansion, taxpayers will be on the hook for an additional \$40 million on an annual basis. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 39-31, on February 19, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 20-

14, on March 4, 2025. Governor Rhoden vetoed the bill.

HB 1166
ENHANCED PRO-WORKER PROTECTIONS
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements several new penalties for union coercion and intimidation. Specifically, the legislation establishes misdemeanor penalties for individuals who threaten harm or damage property in an effort to coerce employees to join a union, establishes misdemeanor penalties for individuals who picket outside private homes of employees or employers, and prohibits union officers from attempting to collect dues on property without permission from property owners. Unions routinely act as political enforcers for far-left activists and causes, and this bill aims to further curb the ability of union bosses to accumulate resources and power at the expense of hardworking South Dakotans. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 59-9, on February 12, 2025. The South Dakota Senate tabled it in committee.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

HB 1185
PROHIBITING TAXPAYER-FUNDED LOBBYING
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill protects taxpayers through a prohibition on taxpayer-funded lobbying. Specifically, the legislation bans district school boards from using taxpayer money to hire lobbyists or obtain membership in associations that lobby the state legislature. This common-sense reform protects hardworking households and families from funding their local taxpayer-funded school boards to lobby for more taxpayer-backed benefits that ultimately harm or increase financial burdens on the very people they are supposed to serve. The South Dakota House rejected the bill, 28-40, on February 13, 2025. The South Dakota Senate did not take it up.

HB 1235
NEW PROPERTY TAX INCREASE LIMIT
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements a cap on annual property tax increases. Specifically, the legislation limits

local taxing districts to the lesser of 2.5 percent or the change in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This 2.5 percent cap does not apply to school districts, bond payments subject to referenda, scheduled payment increases on bonds, or court-ordered judgments against a taxing district. While not transformative, the imposition of an annual cap provides much-needed certainty for homeowners and property managers. Lawmakers should continue to make tax increases more difficult as hardworking families continue to struggle with persistent inflation and high costs due to profligate federal spending. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 39-31, on February 25, 2025. The South Dakota Senate rejected it, 13-21, on March 10, 2025.

HCR 6002
ELIMINATING PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This resolution calls on the President to roll back federal requirements for project labor agreements. Specifically, the legislation calls

for the revocation of Executive Order 14063 and new legislation that prohibits project labor mandates, which require pre-hire collective bargaining agreements with labor unions for federal projects. South Dakota is a right-to-work state, and such policies discriminate against capable non-unionized workers to reward union bosses. Unions routinely act as political enforcers for far-left activists and causes, and this resolution aims to further curb the ability of union bosses to accumulate resources and power at the expense of hardworking South Dakotans. The South Dakota House passed the resolution, 63-5, on February 12, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-2, on February 21, 2025.

HCR 6008
AMTRAK EXPANSION RESOLUTION
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This resolution calls for Congress and the President to support a new Amtrak line through South Dakota. Specifically, the legislation argues that South Dakota is the only state without Amtrak rail and advocates for a new line through Rapid City, Pierre, and Sioux Falls. Amtrak receives

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

exorbitant federal taxpayer subsidies, recently ran a \$1.8 billion deficit in 2024, and outside of the Northeast Corridor, has never been profitable. Further, Amtrak accounts for fewer than 0.1 percent of passenger miles traveled. A new line will not result in meaningful economic gains for South Dakota, but will definitely saddle taxpayers with hundreds of millions in new government spending, debt, and long-term maintenance, while rewarding labor unions. The South Dakota House passed the resolution, 49-21, on February 19, 2025. The South Dakota Senate rejected it, 17-18, on March 3, 2025.

HJR 5001
CURBING MEDICAID EXPANSION
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the state constitution on Medicaid. Specifically, the legislation prohibits the state from imposing stricter eligibility limits for Medicaid than what is provided under federal statute; however, the resolution would provide for a work requirement for anyone enrolled in Medicaid who has not been determined as mentally or physically disabled.

This would effectively rescind the state Medicaid expansion to healthy adults. South Dakota unwisely expanded the fraud-prone and costly Medicaid program to able-bodied adults in 2022. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving South Dakotans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The South Dakota House passed the joint resolution, 59-7, on January 21, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 31-3, on March 3, 2025.

SB 24
ONEROUS PLUMBING LICENSING AND FEE SCHEME
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes significant new licensing and inspection fees. Specifically, the legislation empowers the State Plumbing Commission to promulgate new regulations that impose higher application, examination, and licensing fees across the state. These onerous revenue grabs include fees ranging from \$30 for license verification

to \$300 for a license or license renewal for plumbers. Additionally, the bill imposes exorbitant inspection fees against taxpayers ranging from \$125 for a single-family home to \$325 for a multi-family unit or complex. This bill is the product of the Commission lobbying the legislature on its own behalf to bolster its revenue and justify its own existence under the guise of improving service. This is a tax increase by another name. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 54-16, on March 4, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 25-10, on February 12, 2025.

SB 28
BURDENSOME BARBERING LICENSING SCHEME
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill perpetuates costly licensing schemes for barbers. Specifically, the legislation continues and imposes exorbitant fees on barbering practices through the Board of Barber Examiners, including a \$300 certificate of registration, a \$300 annual renewal fee, a \$600 annual permit to operate a barber school, and a \$150 annual inspection fee. Onerous occupational licensing schemes create

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

barriers to entry that disproportionately affect lower-income populations. Instead of creating new licensing bureaucracies to regulate further and tax hardworking South Dakotans, lawmakers should reduce and eliminate these obstacles. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 62-7, on March 6, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 32-2, on February 19, 2025.

SB 31
NEW ELECTRICAL COMMISSION FEES
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes significant new inspection fees. Specifically, the legislation empowers the State Electrical Commission to promulgate new regulations that impose installation fees across the state. These onerous revenue grabs include a \$390 fee for new residential installations and service connections, a \$65 fee for circuit installations, a \$150 inspection fee for every apartment in a complex, a \$250 fee for wiring permit procedures, and a minimum fee of \$150 if inspection calculations total less than \$100. This bill is the product of the Commission lobbying the legislature on its own behalf to bolster its

revenue and justify its own existence under the guise of improving service. This is a tax increase by another name. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 55-15, on March 4, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 27-8, on February 12, 2025.

SB 216
GOVERNOR’S MODEST PROPERTY TAX PACKAGE
(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements modest property tax reforms. Specifically, the legislation caps county assessments at 3 percent for homeowners for the next five years, imposes a 3 percent cap on the amount that taxing districts and school capital outlay budgets can increase rates, and implements a temporary property tax freeze for homeowners with household income below \$55,000. Additionally, the changes will require municipalities to reduce or freeze local spending to offset the new property tax caps. While relatively uninspiring, this proposal provides some certainty and relief for hardworking families as lawmakers consider stronger policy proposals

to lower the state’s tax burden. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 53-16, on March 10, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 29-6, on March 11, 2025.

SB 220
MISSED OPPORTUNITY BUDGET AGREEMENT
(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates spending for the annual budget. Specifically, the legislation spends \$7.3 billion in total federal and state funds for the FY2026 fiscal year, a \$5 million decrease from total FY2025 spending levels. However, the bill increases state General Fund spending by \$53 million, equal to a 2.2 percent increase year-over-year. Further, the bill increases state spending from outside the General Fund by 3 percent year-over-year, highlighting that the relatively flat overall numbers stem from diminished federal stimulus money from the COVID era. Additionally, the package includes a 1.25 percent across-the-board pay increase for state employees, a 2.8 percent increase in state Medicaid spending, a 2.5 percent increase in state education spending,

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
METHODOLOGY 2025 SOUTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE SNAPSHOT
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTES
SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

South Dakota 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

and rejects a previously-proposed \$3.6 million cut for taxpayer-funded South Dakota Public Broadcasting. This was a missed opportunity to significantly reduce the state spending baseline. The South Dakota House passed the bill, 59-11, on March 13, 2025. The South Dakota Senate passed it, 34-1, on the same day.

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2025 SOUTH
DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTES

SOUTH DAKOTA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS