



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 12, 2024

Issue # 1



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SDATAT Lobbyist

## 2024 LEGISLATIVE NOTES

The 99<sup>th</sup> South Dakota Legislative Session opened on January 9th, 2023, with many legislators beginning their second year of session. As always, your Association and I will be working diligently this legislative session to improve townships across the State of South Dakota.

For it only being the first week of session, there are a high number of bills with 88 House Bills and 82 Senate Bills introduced to date. This session is expected to have a significant number of bills between the House and Senate, meaning that it will be a busy time for your Association and many others.

Governor Noem presented her annual State of the State address on Tuesday, January 9th, 2023. Throughout her State of the State address, she provided her “Top Ten List” of things that support her Freedom Works in South Dakota campaign. This included the freedom to keep and bear arms, freedom to enjoy the outdoors, freedom to farm and ranch, freedom to be secure, freedom get a second chance, freedom to be respected, freedom to learn, freedom to be healthy, freedom for life, and the freedom to work.

At this point there have a been a couple of bills introduced that may be of interest to your Association. First, of interest may be **SB 4** which seeks to increase the amount authorized without advertising for bids for snow removal from \$3500 dollars to \$10,000 dollars. It should be noted this increase is relating to the snow removal reserve fund as authorized by SDCL 31-13-26. This bill was heard in Senate Local Government on January 12, 2024, passed 5-0, and was placed on the consent calendar.

**SB 37** is also a bill that members of your Association may want to monitor. This bill states that in the event the township does not maintain mail routes, the county’s expenses

incurred in maintaining the mail routes when a township fails to do so, shall increase from an amount not to exceed \$200 each mile each year to \$2500 each mile each year. This bill was brought due to the \$200 limit originating from 1955 legislation. This bill was heard in Senate Local Government on January 12, 2024, passed 5-0, and was placed on the consent calendar.

Your Association will once again introduce several bills this legislative session. One bill will push back the reversionary period for the funds distributed in the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund a year for each distributed amount in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the funds distributed to the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund have more time to be used for townships and counties rather than revert back to the general budget.

Your Association is also introducing a bill which would allow all maintained roads to be potentially eligible for the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund rather than only full maintenance roads. It should be noted that the townships will still have to have met one of the two requirements of imposing a tax levy or opt out before they are eligible to apply for the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund grant.

Next, your Association is introducing a bill to require townships to be involved with the county special permit process from the beginning. Finally, your Association will be working with the counties to address the issue of annexation by municipalities and the roads that are left to be maintained by the counties and townships.

I will be diligently working with your Association leadership as your Association’s legislation continues to develop and eventually be introduced.

This is an exciting time – as well as very busy – for many interest groups and Associations, including yours. I appreciate the opportunity once again to represent your Association’s best interest during the 99<sup>th</sup> legislative session.

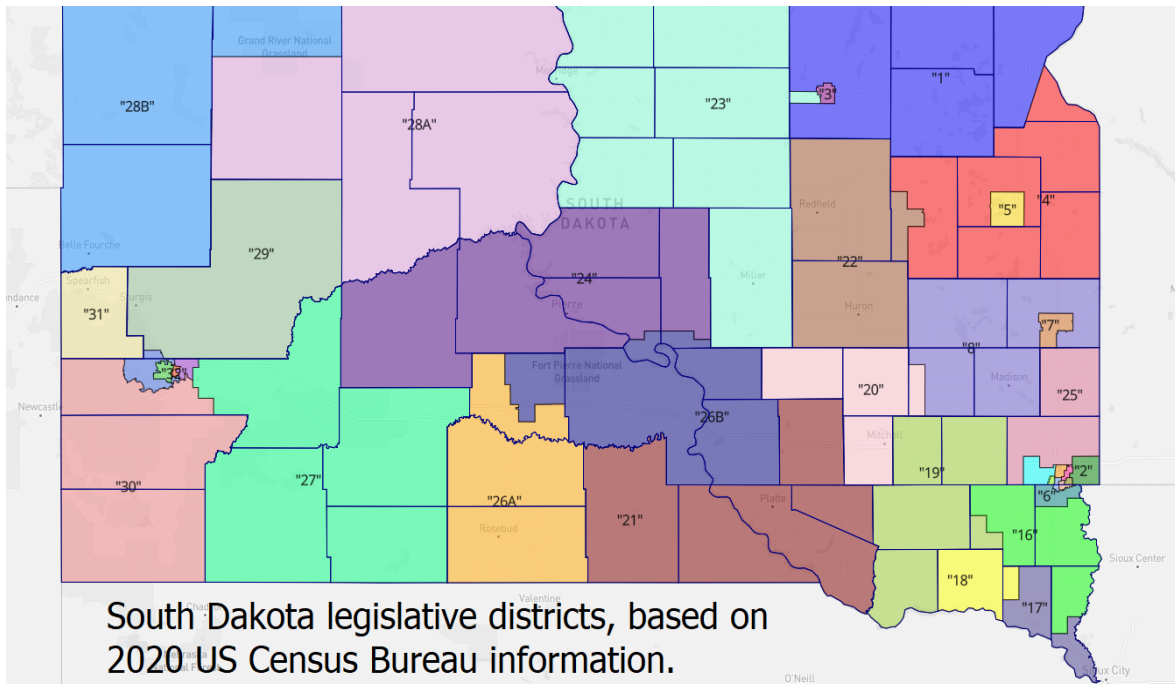
# 99th SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR

2024 38 Legislative Days



Please refer to the Joint Rules, Chapter 17 for complete information.

	Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	
January 2024		1	2	3	4	5	6	
	7	8	9 Session Opens 12 Noon(CST) (Constitution, Art. III, Sec. 7)  <i>State of the State</i>  LD 1	10 <i>State of the Judiciary</i> 11:00am  <i>State of the Tribes</i> 1:00pm  LD 2	11	12	13	LD 3   LD 4
	14	15 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	16 Executive orders filed (Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 8)  LD 5	17	18 <i>Jt. Memorial Service</i> 3:00pm  LD 7	19	20	LD 6   LD 8
	21	22	23 Bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm (for unlimited introduction)  LD 9	24	25 Last day for unlimited bill and resolution introduction (JR 6B-3) (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 12	26	27	LD 10   LD 11   LD 12
	28	29 All bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm  LD 13	30 Committee bill and resolution draft requests due to LRC by 5:00pm  LD 14	31 Last day for introduction of individual bills and resolutions (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 15	1 Last day for introduction of committee bills and resolutions (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 16	2	3	LD 13   LD 14   LD 15   LD 16   LD 17
February 2024	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	11	12	13	14	15 Last day for JCA selection of general fund revenue targets (JR 7-11.1)  LD 25	16	17	LD 18   LD 19   LD 20   LD 21
	18	19 <i>Presidents' Day</i>	20 Last day to use JR 5-17, AND Last day to move required delivery of bills or resolutions by a committee to the house of origin  LD 26	21 Last day to invoke JR 7-7 in the house of origin, AND Last day to pass bills or joint resolutions by the house of origin (Crossover Day)  LD 27	22	23 Last day for JCA to move required delivery of special appropriation bills to house of origin (JR 17-1)  LD 29	24	LD 22   LD 23   LD 24   LD 25   LD 26   LD 27   LD 28   LD 29
	25	26 Commemoration requests due to LRC by 5:00pm, AND Last day for house of origin to pass special appropriation bills referred from JCA (JR 17-1)  LD 30	27	28 JR 5-13 in effect, AND Last day for introduction of commemorations (TWO HOURS prior to session)  LD 32	29 Last day to move required delivery of bills or joint resolutions by a committee to the second house  LD 33	1	2	LD 25   LD 26   LD 27   LD 28   LD 29
March 2024	3	4 Last day for a bill or joint resolution to pass both houses, and Last day to invoke JR 7-7 in the second house  LD 34	5	6	7	8	9	
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25 Reserved for consideration of gubernatorial vetoes  LD 38	26	27	28	29	30	LD 34   LD 35   LD 36   LD 37



SOUTH  
DAKOTA  
LEGISLATIVE  
DISTRICT  
MAP

South Dakota legislative districts, based on 2020 US Census Bureau information.

## TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

**January 9th- Legislative Session Opens**

**February 7th - SDATAT Ice Cream Social at the Capital**

**Feb 27th- Required Township meeting**

**March 5th - Required Township Annual Meeting (SDCL 8-3-1)**

**April 1st- SDATAT Scholarship Applications Due**

**April 15 - SDATAT Bond Applications Due**

**July 15 - Opt Outs Due**

## **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

**To Track Legislation** <http://legis.sd.gov/>

**To Listen To Committees Live:**

[http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative\\_Session/Committees/default.aspx](http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Committees/default.aspx)

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