

2021 Proposed Interim Studies

Study A

Title of Requested Study: To reauthorize the Mental Health of First Responders Task Force interim legislative study.

Scope of Requested Study: To encourage the Executive Board of the Legislature to reauthorize the Mental Health of First Responders Task Force interim legislative study. BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Sixth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that it is recommended to the Executive Board of the Legislature for the reauthorization of the Mental Health in First Responders Task Force legislative study to address the mental health needs and challenges facing first responders and to report on the implementation of HB 1064 to the Legislature; and

Requested By HCR 6012

Study B

Title of Requested Study: Marijuana Study

Scope of Requested Study: We in the legislature will be seeing this product in all its forms and uses in the not distant future. Let's get unbiased (or both sides) sources of information to create the best system that works for our state.

Requested By Senator Schoenbeck

Study C

Title of Requested Study: Adult-use (recreational) Retail Licensing

Scope of Requested Study: Look at other states best practices for creating a framework for retail licensing of adult-use marijuana. Look at which models have failed and why. Determine goals and define what framework is easy to implement and enforce. Look at plans that incorporate social equity as a driving force.

Requested By Representative Derby

Study D

Title of Requested Study: THREE IN ONE: 1) Counties roads, bridges and tax ability 2) Concentrate on Affordable Housing 3) Mental Health and Nursing Homes 4) CSP This is even more important than ever

Scope of Requested Study:

Requested By Representative Perry

Study E

Title of Requested Study: Efficiency of Publicly-Funded Institutions in Sioux Falls

Scope of Requested Study: Within a two-mile radius we have Southeast Tech and the Community College at Sioux Falls (formerly the University Center). In addition to these two State run schools the Sioux Falls School district has been operating the New Tech High School in a building shared with Southeast Tech. New Tech High will be vacating their space and relocating to the District's new Jefferson High School. The question to be studied is does it make sense to operate two publicly funded institutions offering many of the same programs such as Business, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Information Technology and others so close together. Could the facilities operate more efficiently and also accommodate more students in high demand programs such as nursing. In 2020 the legislature passed SB55 resulting in a task force studying the operations and functions of our regental system. This suggested study goes beyond the scope of SB55 in that it requires involvement of Southeast Tech and possibly the local school district.

Requested By Senator Steinhauer

Study F

Title of Requested Study: A study of workforce housing needs in South Dakota

Scope of Requested Study: The scope of the study is: 1) examine the need to development of affordable workforce housing for low to moderate income individuals and families throughout the state; 2) identify the effectiveness and gaps of housing tax credits and other financial tools to help fund projects based on locally determined need and projections; 3) develop a long-term dedicated revenue source for strategic housing needs through a revolving loan fund to mitigate development costs; and; 4) examine community match and partnerships that will leverage the positive impact of the resource provided through a revolving loan fund. Include the building trades and apprenticeships and what can be done to have more people in the contractor trades do the building.

Requested By Senator Diedrich

Study G

Title of Requested Study: Work force housing. How can small and medium cities engage GOED and SD Housing to tailor a program that is suited to them? Each city is so different with needs being diverse. With expected federal money being available again next year, what program can be drafted so we can be "ready to go" for an appropriation ask?

Scope of Requested Study:

Requested By Representative Weisgram

Study H

Title of Requested Study: Review of required publications. From the blue Book to Annual reports

Scope of Requested Study: The study would consolidate a list of all required publications and the cost to print and distribute the documents. A review should be made of the each document and it continued worth evaluated. If the document has value can it be distributed via the web?

Requested By Representative Bartels

Study I

Title of Requested Study: County and Regional Jail Infrastructure Study

Scope of Requested Study: To study the growing need for improved county jail infrastructure and costs associated with the constructing, renovating, and replacing of obsolete buildings and structures designed for jail incarceration.

Requested By House Local Government

Study J

Title of Requested Study: Medicaid Rate Methodology Study

Scope of Requested Study: We have a Medicaid rate methodology process for the Medicaid dependent organizations, but we don't hear enough about all entities that Medicaid is a payer in. I propose we review the Medicaid rate methodology studies for all Medicaid reimbursed organization.

Requested By Senator Breitling

Study K

Title of Requested Study: Review property tax assessment practices and reappraisal plans to avoid dramatic increases caused by escalating markets or county wide reappraisals.

Scope of Requested Study:

- To mediate large assessment increases due to large market swings or the lack of up-to-date assessments. To allow for the fair and equitable assessment of all property but apply guard rails for extraordinary or dramatic assessment increased. (development of thresholds)
- To discuss what is a dramatic assessment increases and the possibility to allow taxpayers time to financially plan their future tax liability.
- Study the use of County Wide Reappraisal Plan and commitment of planned resources to ensure proper and current assessments.
- Study the mechanics of a possible phased in approach to be applied to Owner Occupied properties so that the increase can be formulated over a 3 (+-) year period.
- Study the mechanics of a possible phased in approach to be applied to ALL properties so that the increase can be formulated over a 3 (+-) year period. Clearly define parameters/definitions for terms to be applied in regards to what is a dramatic or extraordinary increase in assessments.

Requested By Representative Chaffee

Study L

Title of Requested Study: Societal and Economic Impact of Agricultural Land of Foreign Ownership

Scope of Requested Study: This is the right time to consider who owns agricultural land in South Dakota. In light of current and continuing political and economic upheaval around the world, climatic changes, the globalization of supply chains and marketing, and technological advancements, we need to assess how vulnerable our agricultural land is to foreign takeover and what societal and economical impacts such a trend might have on our rural way of life. South Dakota farmers and ranchers feed our country. They provide economic stability in our communities. They lead in protecting our natural resources and they provide opportunities for our sportsmen and women. But, many of our farmers are approaching retirement age. Land holdings are getting bigger and consequently more expensive. From where will the next generation of agricultural land owners come from? (Hypothesis: from foreign lands) We know that foreign ownership of and foreign investment in U.S. agricultural land continues to increase. Other states have banned or limited such activity. Why? What caused them to undertake that action? Are their findings and rationale applicable to South Dakota? This study will help answer these important questions. The study would involve input from a variety of sources including state agencies, agricultural associations, banks, real estate agencies, local economic development offices, and food producers and processors. (Hypothesis: Once we, as Americans - as South Dakotans - lose control of our agricultural land, we are not going to get it back. Our food security will be in the hands of non-Americans. Their interests will prevail over our basic needs.)

Requested By Representative Mulally