

# 2023 Proposed Interim Studies

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## Study A

**Title of Requested Study:**

House Concurrent Resolution 6001: To recommend the Executive Board establish a task force to study a potential optional educational path.

**Scope of Requested Study:**

[HCR6001](#)

**Requested By:**

[HCR6001](#)

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## Study B

**Title of Requested Study:**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 601: Encouraging the Executive Board of the Legislature to authorize and form an interim legislative committee on nuclear power in South Dakota.

**Scope of Requested Study:**

[SCR601](#)

Senator Hoffman also provided the following: Given the capacity, reliability and low-carbon advantages of nuclear energy as well as ongoing studies in adjoining states and forthcoming multibillion dollar Department of Energy grants, it's crucial that South Dakota move forward with a summer study on nuclear energy. If selected and approved by the Executive Board (per SCR601), the summer study would examine nuclear energy design and operation, new technologies, state and federal regulations and stakeholder feedback. In addition, the committee would publish an executive summary (and/or presentation) for all legislators, to include policy recommendations, prior to the start of the next session.

**Requested By:**

[SCR601](#)

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## Study C

**Title of Requested Study:**

Indian Children Welfare Interim Study

**Scope of Requested Study:**

1) Develop best practices for promoting the welfare of Indian children and families based on a review of existing practice and law in South Dakota, the 2004 Governor's Commission on the Indian Child Welfare Act, applicable federal law, the laws of other states, and the laws of Indian tribes. 2) Create a plan to recruit, prepare, and support Indian foster families and adoptive families. 3) Identify improved standards and timeframes for ordering the termination of parental rights, with the goal of reducing the need to terminate parental rights whenever possible. 4) Explore ways to overcome barriers to family reunification such as housing, cost of living, substance abuse and addiction disorders, and incarceration. Create a plan to prioritize the placement of Indian kids with their relatives and tribal members. 5) Evaluate strategies to make effective use of qualified expert witnesses in child placement proceedings involving Indian children.

**Requested By:**

Representative Nelson and Senator Bordeaux

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## Study D

**Title of Requested Study:**

Development of a model for sustainability of long term care services in South Dakota - Nursing Home Funding

**Scope of Requested Study:**

A collaborative study between state and private/public long term care providers for the development of a continuum of care model for long term care services that includes: access, innovation and sustainability. The goal is delivering recommendations with actionable solutions to meet individuals' needs for the level of long term care services that support their quality of life and support providers in their service delivery. The study would include assessment of current data elements: population/demographics, facility aging, regulatory implications, locations of existing services, staffing implications, reimbursement; achieving consensus on levels of care to be included in model, identifying models that are used in other states demonstrating sustainability; innovative approaches demonstrated to be successful; consensus on incentives to stimulate moving to a model which is proposed to address the outcome that is promoted in the request. A request is made for a consultant to facilitate the process. The ABT Assoc. completed an initial study on this subject in 2008 and then an update was done by the company in 2012. They have familiarity with the previous findings and recommendations. They would provide continuity with what has been done and facilitate for the goal of the study.

**Requested By:**

Senators Hunhoff and Schoenbeck

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## Study E

**Title of Requested Study:**

Affordable and accessible childcare task force

**Scope of Requested Study:**

The task force will focus on inadequate data concerning childcare quality, capacity, and challenges; lack of affordability of quality childcare for families, and childcare provider financial and workforce sustainability. See [SCR605](#).

**Requested By:**

Senator Reed

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## Study F

**Title of Requested Study:**

Daycare Access & Funding Issues

**Scope of Requested Study:**

A summer study to review the financial needs of daycare providers such as rates and costs and review affordability for families to identify key issues in the problems with access to daycare.

**Requested By:**

Representative Olson

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## Study G

**Title of Requested Study:**

To study domestic violence courts and study the assessment of domestic violence court tools

**Scope of Requested Study:**

Study the success of domestic violence courts in other states Study the mental health scope the success of domestic violence courts Victim's rights Victim's use of substances when facing accused

**Requested By:**

Representative Schaeffbauer

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## Study H

**Title of Requested Study:**

South Dakota Surface Water Quality

**Scope of Requested Study:**

The health of South Dakota's rivers and the causes of pollution should be investigated by the legislature so we can craft constructive legislation to open up all uses to the public and preserve this legacy for the future. The DANR statewide integrated report for 2022 lists the following rivers as impaired without approval for the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) of bacteria and suspended solids: Grand, Moreau, Belle Fourche, Cheyenne, White, James, Vermillion and Big Sioux. It should be addressed!

**Requested By:**

Representative Odenbach

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## Study I

**Title of Requested Study:**

Internal Department Audit

**Scope of Requested Study:**

Task each department Secretary or Commissioner to perform an internal efficiency review to determine ways in which the department can reduce costs and improve efficiencies. Each department to review the amount of FTE's, spending areas and which areas can be reduced to provide department efficiencies.

**Requested By:**

Representative Pinnow

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## Study J

**Title of Requested Study:**

County Revenue Sources

**Scope of Requested Study:**

Several Counties reportedly are not collecting enough Real Estate Tax dollars to fund their budgets. The scope would be to understand how many are approaching a negative position, the causes and potential cures, Consolidation, new source of revenue, lifting the cap on real estate tax growth, etc. Also making sure the additional revenue goes to counties that need it.

**Requested By:**

Representative Bartels

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## Study K

**Title of Requested Study:**

Unfunded Mandates affecting County Solvency

**Scope of Requested Study:**

Sources of Revenue, Core responsibilities of County Government

**Requested By:**

Representative Weisgram

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## Study L

**Title of Requested Study:**

County Government

**Scope of Requested Study:**

1) Funding Counties; 2) Mechanism by which counties may be consolidated; 3) County System/Structure/Function; 4) Services offered by Counties

**Requested By:**

House Local Government

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## Study M

**Title of Requested Study:**

Cyber Security for Local Governments

**Scope of Requested Study:**

Cyber Security Recourses Available to Local Governments, Awareness of Threats, Possible Support from the State

**Requested By:**

House Local Government, Senate Local Government, and Rep. Blare

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## Study N

**Title of Requested Study:**

County Funding and Services

**Scope of Requested Study:**

A study of the appropriate administration and funding of county services mandated by the state and provided by the counties including: 1) Consideration of services currently offered by counties that might be transferred to the state to administer 2) Review of mandated services

**Requested By:**

Senate Local Government

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## Study O

### Title of Requested Study:

Study of unfunded mandates required to be provided by counties

### Scope of Requested Study:

A study of the appropriate administration and payment of certain services mandated to be provided by counties including medical assistance for indigent persons, juror fees, court costs, elections, veteran service officers, and mental health holds.

### Requested By:

House Taxation

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## Study P

### Title of Requested Study:

Doing more for counties and general suggestions

### Scope of Requested Study:

1- a new county sales tax authority 2- school formula 3- Tax discussion - TIFS 4- equity return on tax foreclosure - future tax 5-Ways to fund counties for - Roads - bridges with BIG - tax levies -jails

### Requested By:

Representative Perry

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## Study Q

### Title of Requested Study:

These items have been brought up by various legislators throughout session for consideration by the Executive Board.

### Scope of Requested Study:

Computer Service as a graduation requirement.  
 Academy network suggests day care needs better access and affordability.  
 Tribal relations.  
 Return equity after foreclosure.  
 School system formula.  
 Tax discussion on tifs, additions & deletions.  
 WAYS TO FUND COUNTIIES tax levy, roads, bridges, Jails.  
 Renewable fuels, ethanol, electronic.  
 CSP and mental health.  
 Property taxes.  
 Nuclear energy.  
 Tax exemptions.  
 Cyber security.  
 Study current department spending.  
 State transportation on trains, airlines and trucking.

### Requested By:

Representative Perry