



2024 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 165

Introduced by: **Senator Maher**

1 **An Act to create the South Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission and make an**
 2 **appropriation therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

5 The South Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission is created to:

- 6 (1) Advance bilateral trade and investment between this state and Ireland;
 7 (2) Initiate joint action on issues of mutual interest to this state and Ireland;
 8 (3) Promote business and academic exchanges between this state and Ireland;
 9 (4) Encourage mutual economic support between this state and Ireland;
 10 (5) Encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of this state and Ireland; and
 11 (6) Address any other issues deemed to be of mutual benefit to this state and Ireland.

12 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

13 The South Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission consists of:

- 14 (1) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the president pro tempore of the
 15 Senate;
 16 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
 17 House;
 18 (3) A representative of a private sector association headquartered in this state and
 19 focused on the promotion of international trade, appointed by the Executive Board
 20 of the Legislative Research Council; and
 21 (4) The secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or the
 22 secretary's designee.

23 Each appointed member shall serve for a term of two years and may be reappointed
 24 without limit. If a position becomes vacant, the position must be filled, for the duration of
 25 the term, in the same manner as the original appointment.

1 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

2 The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall provide administrative
3 services to the South Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission.

4 At the initial meeting of the commission and annually thereafter, the members shall
5 select one from among the four appointed legislators to serve as the chair. The commission
6 shall meet at least quarterly, at the call of the chair.

7 **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

8 There is established in the state treasury the South Dakota-Ireland trade fund. The
9 Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall administer the fund. The purpose
10 of the fund is to defray the administrative expenses of the commission and support the
11 commission's efforts to carry out its purposes, as set forth in section 1 of this Act.

12 The fund consists of all moneys raised by or on behalf of the commission, together
13 with any gifts, grants, or other donations. Interest on moneys credited to the fund must
14 remain in the fund.

15 The South Dakota-Ireland trade fund is continuously appropriated to the South
16 Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission.

17 **Section 5. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

18 Each member of the South Dakota-Ireland Trade Commission is entitled to receive
19 reimbursement for necessary expenses, as provided for in § 4-7-10.4, from moneys in
20 the South Dakota-Ireland trade fund, if the member is performing duties directed by the
21 commission.

22 **Section 6. That a NEW SECTION be added to title 1:**

23 On or before November first of each year, the South Dakota-Ireland Trade
24 Commission shall provide a report to the Executive Board of the Legislative Research
25 Council. The report must include:

26 (1) A description of the commission's work;

27 (2) A description of benefits to the state and to sectors involved in international trade,
28 attributable to the commission's efforts;

29 (3) Recommendations for legislative action that would support trade between this state
30 and Ireland; and

31 (4) A summary of anticipated commission activities in the ensuing year.