



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1278

HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Representative** Mortenson

1 **An Act to prohibit certain political committees from accepting contributions by**
 2 **certain officers or employees of this state.**

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

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 12-27:**

5 Neither the candidate campaign committee of a state official nor a political action
 6 committee affiliated with a state official may accept a contribution from a state employee
 7 who is employed or appointed by the official and:

8 (1) Is the head of a department or agency of state government;

9 (2) Is the highest paid employee, not including the head, in the department or agency;

10 or

11 (3) Reports directly to the official.

12 For purposes of this section, "state official" means the Governor, lieutenant
 13 governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, attorney general, commissioner of school
 14 and public lands, a commissioner with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of South
 15 Dakota, or a member of the Legislature.

16 **Section 2. This Act is effective beginning January 1, 2027.**