State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2001

734E0457

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ENGROSSED NO. $HB\ 1096$ - 01/25/2001

Introduced by: Representatives Flowers, Hennies (Thomas), Juhnke, Monroe, Olson (Mel), and Pederson (Gordon) and Senators Brown (Arnold), Hutmacher, McCracken, and McIntyre

- 1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the methods for increasing or decreasing school
- 2 board size and for creating or eliminating school board representation areas.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:
- 4 Section 1. That § 13-8-3 be amended to read as follows:
- 5 13-8-3. The voters <u>or the school board</u> of any school district may increase <u>or decrease</u> the
- 6 number of board members to seven or to nine, or establish or eliminate school board
- 7 representation areas, by a majority vote of all voters voting at an election called and held as
- 8 hereinafter provided in this section or by unanimous vote of the school board. The number of
- 9 <u>board members shall be as provided in § 13-8-2</u>. If a petition signed by ten <u>five</u> percent of the
- 10 registered voters of any school district, based upon the total number of registered voters of the
- school district who cast votes at the last preceding general school election, is presented to the
- board requesting that an election be called for the purpose of voting upon the question of the
- change of number of board members, or the establishment of school board representation areas,
- the board shall call an election. If a petition seeking referral of any board action taken pursuant

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to this section is presented to the board within ninety days of the board action, the board shall

call an election. The question shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held not less
than forty-five nor more than sixty days from the date of the filing of such the petition with the
business manager. If such a the petition is filed less than one hundred twenty days prior to the
next annual election, the question shall be submitted at the annual election. Such The election
shall be held upon the same notice and conducted in the same manner as provided by chapter
13-7. Any increase or decrease in the number of board members shall be implemented at the next

Section 2. That § 13-8-4 be amended to read as follows:

succeeding annual election.

- 13-8-4. If at an election held <u>or board action taken</u> pursuant to § 13-8-3 <u>an increase a change</u> in the number of board members is authorized, the school board <u>is empowered to may</u> designate the number of vacancies and the number of years, not to exceed three years, in each vacancy so that all succeeding annual elections will have, insofar as practicable, the same number of vacancies to be filled.
- The procedure for decreasing the number of board members shall be the same as for increasing the number of board members, and the board is similarly empowered to may designate the vacancies and terms not to exceed three years; provided, that. However, each school board member shall be entitled to complete the term of office to which he the member was elected.