



## 2025 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 144

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator Karr**

1 **An Act to require legislative approval for significant capital expenditures by the**  
 2 **Department of Game, Fish and Parks.**

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

4 **Section 1. That § 41-2-19 be AMENDED:**

5 **41-2-19.** ~~The Subject to section 2 of this Act, the~~ Department of Game, Fish and  
 6 Parks may, on behalf and in the name of the state, acquire public or private property by  
 7 gift, grant, devise, purchase, lease, or condemnation proceedings, and may manage,  
 8 control, and improve the property for the purpose of exercising the powers granted in this  
 9 title.

10 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-2:**

11 Notwithstanding any provision of this title to the contrary, the Department of  
 12 Game, Fish and Parks may not acquire, build, or significantly improve a building, facility,  
 13 or other physical asset, or build or significantly improve any infrastructure, or enter into  
 14 a lease or a lease-purchase agreement, if doing so would require a cumulative capital  
 15 expenditure in excess of two million five hundred thousand dollars, without first obtaining  
 16 the express approval of the Legislature.

17 Notwithstanding any provision of this title to the contrary, the Department of  
 18 Game, Fish and Parks may not acquire any public or private real property if doing so would  
 19 require a cumulative capital expenditure in excess of two million five hundred thousand  
 20 dollars, without first obtaining:

- 21 (1) The express approval of the Legislature; or  
 22 (2) The express approval of the special committee created in accordance with § 4-8A-  
 23 2, if:  
 24 (a) Time is of the essence; and  
 25 (b) The Legislature is in a recess or between sessions.

1           No acquisition, construction, improvement, or contract described in this section  
2           may be divided so as to require multiple smaller capital expenditures in order to avoid or  
3           otherwise defeat the approval threshold established in this section.

4           Any contract entered into in violation of this section is voidable in a legal action  
5           initiated by the attorney general.

6           The applicability of this section includes any action authorized under this title.