LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL FY 2026 BUDGET

January 2025

Joint Committee on Appropriations

LRC Overview

LRC Staff Summary

Recent LRC Improvements

2025 FY Year Adjustments

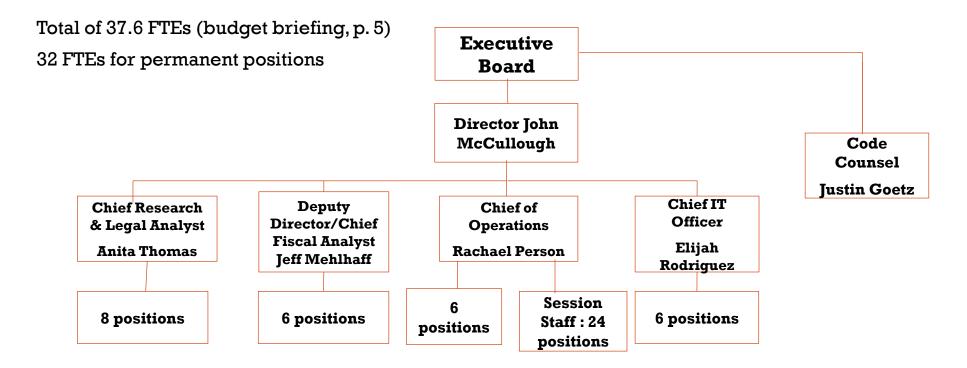
2026 Budget Overview

Proposed Budget Adjustment

Questions

PRESENTATION OUTLINE





LRC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





House/Senate Floor Sessions: 76 Daily Journals: 76 Standing Committee Meetings: 285 Bills/Resolutions Drafted: 967 • Legislative introductions: 560 Referrals to committees: 419 (h) + 392 (s) = 811 total• Amendments Drafted: 556 Committee Reports: 147(h) + 138(s) = 285 total Conference Committees: 8 Engrossments: 214 Enrollments: 235 Interim Committee Meetings: 48 Issue Memoranda: 7 State agency rules reviewed: 55





• NCSL: Total Legislative Staff During Session by State (2021)

- Iowa \rightarrow 371 (192 permanent)
- Minnesota \rightarrow 667 (600 permanent)
- Montana → 290 (140 permanent)

94

- Nebraska → 238
- North Dakota \rightarrow 117
- South Dakota \rightarrow 59
- Wyoming \rightarrow

- (228 permanent)
 - (34 permanent) (48 permanent, 2024)
 - (27 permanent) (32 permanent, 2024)
 - (44 permanent) (46 permanent, 2024)





- <u>North Dakota Legislature</u> \rightarrow 48 permanent legislative staff, 2024
 - Population of ND = <u>783,926</u>
 - 47 legislative districts
 - A little more than 1 nonpartisan staff per legislative district
 - 16,679 people per legislative district | 80 legislative days every other year
- <u>Wyoming Legislature</u> \rightarrow 46 permanent legislative staff, 2024
 - Population of WY = <u>584,057</u>
 - 32 legislative districts
 - Almost 1.5 nonpartisan staff per legislative district
 - 18,840 people per legislative district | 40 legislative days first year and 20 legislative days second year
- South Dakota Legislature \rightarrow 32 permanent legislative staff, 2024
 - Population of SD = <u>919,318</u>
 - 35 legislative districts
 - A little less than 1 nonpartisan staff per legislative district
 - 26,266 people per legislative district | 40 legislative days each year



LRC STAFF

LRC staff:

- Out of the current 32 LRC staff—6 are new hires during the last year. 4 from new positions given to the LRC in last year's budget and two to fill vacancies.
- Those joining were:
 - 2 fiscal analysts
 - 1 research analyst
 - 1 IT support specialist/1 senior software engineer
 - 1 administrative specialist

Currently, the LRC has no vacant positions.

LRC STAFF

LRC staff eligible for retirement: 2

LRC staff eligible for retirement in five years: 2

Average staff age: <u>38</u>

Turnover Rate 2024: 3%

LRC STAFF

Vacation Time

- 21 LRC staff (out of 32) have over 2 years of LRC service.
- Those 21 staff have an average of 175 hours of unused vacation (22 days).
- Each staff earns 120 vacation hours per year (15 days).

Compensatory Time

- As of April 2024, total unused compensatory time was 2,517 hours:
- Average of 93 hours/staff
- 2,517÷40=63 weeks
- Earned over 4-month period
- [Note: 2,080 working hours in a year]
- As of December 5, 2024, LRC staff have a total of 220 hours of unused compensatory time

Possible explanations:

- Generally, vacation is used sparingly between November 1 and April 1 (6 months).
- Overtime is necessary to complete session work.
- Interim duties are steady (staffing committees, research, bill drafting, issue memos, publishing the law (online and in print), rules review, trainings.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS



Annual updates to the Guide to Legislative Drafting and to the Drafting Manual: Administrative Rules of South Dakota



Misc. IT upgrades

Network upgrades for 3rd and 4th Floor of capitol building

Completed Phase l of upgrades to speaker system on the House and Senate Floors

100th Session Preparation

Assist 100th Session Committee

Education program

Historical Listing

Ċ	6	
		•

Improvements to LawMaker

Significant upgrades to electronic workflow

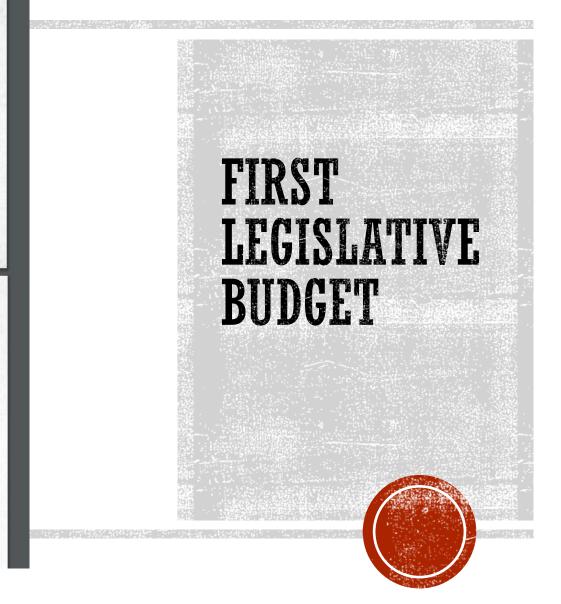


Making better use of space

Created more meeting space for members and staff for the 2025 session

Made updates to LRC basement space

Executive Officers Acting on Commission—	9 500 00
For maintenance of State House For per diem and mileage of commissioners	2,000 00
8	4,500 00
§ 5. Salaries of Members of the Senate and House of	of Repre-
sentatives, Clerks, and other Employees and Mileage.	222 22
For salary of members of senate and legislature\$	$630 \ 00$ $53,235 \ 00$
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS.	19
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS.	19
or clerks' salary and other employees 11,0	19 000 00 342 20
or clerks' salary and other employees	$ \begin{array}{c} 000 & 00 \\ 342 & 20 \end{array} $
or clerks' salary and other employees	000 00 342 20 207 20
or clerks' salary and other employees	000 00 342 20 207 20
For clerks' salary and other employees	000 00 342 20 207 20



CHAPTER 286

(S. B. 283)

CREATING STATE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL

AN ACT Entitled, An Act Creating a State Legislative Research Council and Providing for an Executive Board of the Council and Designating Its Duties, Making an Appropriation Thereof, and Declaring an Emergency.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of South Dakota:

Section 1. There is hereby created a State Legislative Research Council which shall consist of all of the members of the South Dakota Legislature. It shall be the function of the Legislative Research Council to consider legislative policies between sessions of the Legislature and carry out the duties imposed by this Act.

Section 7. The Executive Board is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a secretary and employ such clerks, assistants and other help and provide such supplies and equipment as may be necessary.

Section 8. There is hereby appropriated out of money in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the biennium ending June 30, 1953 for the expenditures incurred in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Section 9. This Act being necessary for the support of state government and its existing institutions, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

Approved March 2, 1951.

FIRST LRC BUDGET, 1951 \$25,000

CHAPTER 367

(S. B. 171)

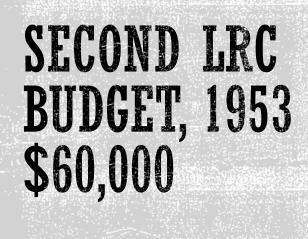
APPROPRIATION FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL

AN ACT Entitled, An Act appropriating money for the per diem and expense of the State Legislative Research Council.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of South Dakota:

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated out of any money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of sixty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the purpose of defraying the per diem and expense of the State Legislative Research Council as authorized by SDC Supp. 55.05A and acts amendatory thereof, for the biennium ending June 30, 1955.

Approved February 16, 1953.







- LRC Request:
 - An additional <u>\$172,348</u> to pay legislator salaries as required by <u>SDCL 2-4-2</u>:
 - "The salary of each member of the Legislature is equal to one-fifth of the South Dakota median household income reported by the United States Census Current Population Survey."
 - The SD median household income, as reported by the US Census Current Population Survey for 2023 is <u>\$81,740</u>. It was <u>\$67,180</u> in 2022.
 - One-fifth of this amount is \$16,348—up from \$13,436, one-fifth of the 2022 median household income.
- Governor recommendation is the same.





- LRC Budget Information (see budget briefing, page 3):
 - LRC Base Budget: <u>\$9,126,278</u>
 - Executive Board: \$<u>9,298,626</u>
 - Governor: <u>\$9,298,626</u>
- Requesting an additional \$172,348 be added to the LRC's base budget to pay for the increase in legislator salaries—see budget briefing, page 4.





- <u>69% of the LRC Budget goes to legislator and staff salaries and staff benefits</u>
 - Salary and benefits = \$6,487,117 (budget briefing, p. 5)
- <u>31% of the LRC Budget</u> = <u>\$2,811,509</u> goes to travel, contractual services, and supplies (budget briefing, p. 5)
- 5% of LRC Budget = <u>\$456,313</u>
- <u>Reduction in IT infrastructure upgrades:</u>
 - Phase 2 of the audio system upgrade to the House and Senate Floors = <u>\$442,825</u>
 - Needed update to server hardware = <u>\$150,000</u>



