We have completed seven days of the 2024 legislative session. The legislature already began taking bills in committees last week, so the pace of session is fast. As of Thursday evening, there are 117 House bills and 101 Senate bills. We are tracking 34 bills which can be found on our bill tracking list.

**State Sales Tax Sunset Repeal**
SDFB continued to oppose HB 1001 in accordance with policy passed by our voting delegates at our annual convention. HB 1001 would have repealed the 2027 sunset for the state sales tax reduction. During the 2023 Legislative Session, House Bill 1137 was signed into law and reduced the state sales tax from 4.5% to 4.2%. A condition of that bill was the state sales tax cut is set to revert to 4.5% with the 2027 sunset clause.

SDFB urged caution surrounding the future of South Dakota’s economy as well as the threat of the grocery sales tax cut being on the 2024 ballot. Within the past 10 years, SD’s budget has also almost doubled for multiple reasons. Since the start of the COVID pandemic, South Dakota has experienced an extraordinary increase in state revenues. Some of this comes from economic growth and some from inflation, but much of it stems from an unprecedented amount of one-time federal funding. SDFB, along with SD Retailers and Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce successfully defeated HB1001 in Senate Appropriations on Thursday. We will update you if additional attempts are made to repeal the sunset.

**Rural Water Joint Resolution**
On Thursday, the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee heard SJR 502. SJR 502 allows the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System to receive an annually appropriated and reserved 19,121 feet of unappropriated water from the Missouri River. The reason for SJR 502 is because any application for an appropriation of water, more than 10,000 acre-feet annually, must be presented by the Water Management Board to the Legislature for approval, prior to action by the board. The committee passed SJR 502 on a unanimous vote.

**E-15 Bill Moves Forward**
SDFB supported an effort to increase the consumption of E-15 at the pump in South Dakota. The bill would give retailers a five-cent tax refund for each gallon of E-15 sold. The initial bill draft would have impacted the state highway fund; however, the current version leaves the highway fund alone by redirecting existing money found in the ethanol infrastructure incentive fund. This fund receives 1.5% of the revenue from the petroleum release compensation and tank inspection fee. SB 78 passed Senate Commerce and Energy unanimously and will be heard on the Senate floor Friday afternoon.

**SDFB Bill Tracker**
The SDFB bill tracking list is up and running. Check it out on the SDFB website. As in past years, it gives you a quick look at the bills we are supporting, opposing, or just watching.

Below is a list of bills that SDFB is supporting, watching, and opposing.
Supporting:

**SJR 501:** Proposing and submitting to the voters at the next general election, an amendment to the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, authorizing the state to impose work requirements on certain individuals who are eligible for expanded Medicaid.

**Purpose:** This joint resolution would allow the State of South Dakota to impose a work requirement on any person for able-bodied individuals who have not been diagnosed as being physically or mentally disabled.

**SJR 502:** Providing legislative approval for a future use water permit application by the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System.

**Purpose:** This joint resolution will allow for the approval of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System to apply for an application for an appropriation of water in excess of ten thousand acre-feet annually.

Watching:

**SB 14:** Expand authorization for the conditional taking of coyotes from snowmobiles.

**Purpose:** This bill would allow and landowner, lessee, or guest to hunt coyotes from a snowmobile.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the South Dakota Farm Bureau policy team.

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**Helpful Links:**

View the SDFB bill-tracker list [here](#).

View the details on any bill by clicking this link and typing in the bill number:  
[2024 South Dakota Bills](#)

Find contact information for the Legislators here:  
[2024 South Dakota Legislators](#)

**Legislative Cracker Barrels and Coffee:**

**Aberdeen Area**  
January 27, **10:00 am – Noon** | Kessler’s Champion’s Club in the Barnett Center @NSU  
February 10, **10:00 am – Noon** | Kessler’s Champion’s Club in the Barnett Center @NSU  
February 14, **10:00 am – Noon** | Kessler’s Champion’s Club in the Barnett Center @NSU
Selby
February 10, 2:30 pm CT | Selby Community Golf Course, 201 S Railway St, Selby, SD 57472

Huron
January 27, 9:00 am CT | Huron City Hall
February 10, 9:00 am CT | Huron City Hall
February 24, 9:00 am CT | Huron City Hall

Rapid City
January 27, 9:00 am MT | Western Dakota Tech Event Center
February 17, 9:00 am MT | Western Dakota Tech Event Center
March 2, 9:00 am MT | Western Dakota Tech Event Center

Sioux Falls
January 27, Districts 2, 10 and 14, 9:30 am CT | Hamre Recital Hall (in the Humanities Building) on the Augustana University Campus.

February 10, Districts 6, 12 and 13, 9:30 am CT | Hamre Recital Hall (in the Humanities Building) on the Augustana University Campus.

February 17, Districts 9, 11 and 15, 9:30 am CT | Hamre Recital Hall (in the Humanities Building) on the Augustana University Campus.