

With 12 legislative days completed and 26 days remaining, the 2025 session is almost one-third complete. South Dakota Farm Bureau is watching a total of 76 bills. As of Thursday evening, there are 214 House bills and resolutions and 197 Senate bills for a total of 411 bills. The last day for bills to be turned into LRC is Monday, February 3, and they must be introduced on the chamber of origin floor by Wednesday, February 5.

The third week of the 100th Legislative Session was historic. Due to the departure of former Governor Kristi Noem to become Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, former Lt. Governor Larry Rhoden was sworn into office as the 34th Governor of South Dakota on Monday. Gov. Rhoden selected Tony Venhuizen to serve as the new Lt. Governor on Wednesday. South Dakota Farm Bureau is looking forward to working with the new Administration!

Agriculture Facility Protection Bill

The agriculture groups including SDFB and Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources supported a bill this week that will create a safer environment for farmers and ranchers. Senate Bill 14 combines two related laws into one chapter of law dealing with “agriculture production facilities.” It also adds penalties for using deception to gain access to or employment at an ag production facility with intent to cause physical or economic harm, or for knowingly placing or using a camera or electronic surveillance device to spy on an ag production facility while committing to criminal trespass.

In another section of the bill, it amends a section of law that makes it a Class 6 felony to steal cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats, buffalo, or captive nondomestic elk with a value of less than \$2,500. This list is incomplete (it does not contain swine, for example). The amendment replicates language from current law that expands the livestock list to include animals such as swine. Additionally, the bill codifies DANR’s longstanding policy of not providing aggregated lists of CAFOs that include address, GPS location, or legal description which is important to minimize agroterrorism and biosecurity risks at these facilities. The bill does not limit access to CAFO public records.

SB 14 passed Senate Judiciary unanimously and passed the Senate Floor 33-2. It will now travel to the House for consideration.

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Fee Increase Dies (Temporarily)

On Thursday, SDFB, joined Pork Producers and Dairy Producers to support the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resource’s bill to increase fees for CAFOs. The bill would increase fees that were set in 1997 and change from a three-tiered fee structure to a per-animal fee structure, with the fee differing based on the species. Additionally, the fee changes would be phased in over a three-year period. From the first to the second year, the fee would increase 100%. From the second to the third year, the fee would increase 50%. Because the current fees have not been changed since they were adopted 28 years ago and currently cover approximately five percent of the total cost of running the program. Furthermore, the agriculture groups offered support for the bill due to the risk of having the federal government manage the program if the state does not have the resources to implement one.

While no opponents testified on the bill, the committee expressed concern with the fee increase and sent the bill to the 41st day, effectively killing the bill. SDFB will keep you updated on any developments.

Property Tax and Solutions Continue to Appear

As mentioned in the first legislative update, our prediction that property taxes being the “big issue” of the 100th Session is becoming true. To date, there are 11 bills and two resolutions pertaining to property taxes. These range from valuation caps to freezing taxes paid on owner-occupied to using sales tax dollars to offset property taxes. Gov. Rhoden in his address to the Legislature committed to convening leadership in the House, the Senate, and other interested parties to sit down with him and find solutions.

Cell Cultured Meat

The third week of session included debate on one cell cultured meat bill and the introduction of two other bills. SDFB, SD Cattlemens and SD Stockgrowers testified in favor of HB 1022, which establishes labeling requirements of cell-cultured protein products to include the words “cell-cultured” or “lab grown.” This bill passed the House of Representatives and Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources unanimously.

Two other bills related to cell cultured meat are HB 1109 and HB 1118. HB 1109 would prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution of cell-cultured meat in this state while HB 1118 would prohibit the award or use of state moneys for the research, production, promotion, sale, or distribution of cell-cultured protein. Currently, SDFB is evaluating the additional bills and will keep you updated on our position.

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:

HJR 5001: Proposing and submitting to the voters at the next general election an amendment to the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, conditioning the requirement of expanded Medicaid on the level of federal medical assistance.

Purpose: This joint resolution would allow the State of South Dakota to bind Medicaid expansion to the level of federal medical assistance. If passed by the voters, the new constitutional amendment would clarify that, if the Federal government ever reduces their match below the current 90 percent, the South Dakota Constitution would no longer require South Dakota to continue Medicaid expansion.

Watching:

HB 1052: Prohibit the exercise of eminent domain for a pipeline that carries carbon dioxide.

Purpose: This bill would prohibit the use of eminent domain for any carbon dioxide pipeline.

SB 56: Authorize the payment of lease rental obligations to the South Dakota Building Authority by the Bureau of Finance and Management, to make an appropriation therefore, and to declare an emergency.

Purpose: This bill would authorize paying off bonds for the Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory and Precision Agriculture buildings at SDSU.

Opposed:

HB 1120: Transfer certain moneys and to make an appropriation for the operations of the state library.

Purpose: This bill would transfer money out of the livestock disease emergency fund into the general fund to help fund the state library.

HB 1107: Prohibit natural asset companies.

Purpose: This bill would prohibit natural asset companies in South Dakota.

HB 1165: Provide a means by which an agricultural producer can reject the imposition of an assessment on crops.

Purpose: This bill would require the wheat, soybean, corn, pulse, and oilseed checkoffs to create forms allowing producers to opt-out of the checkoff.

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:

[2025 South Dakota Bills](#)

Find contact information for the Legislators here:

[2025 South Dakota Legislators](#)