

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2012

156T0673

SENATE ENGROSSED NO. **SB 169** - 2/13/2012

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

Introduced by: Senators Hansen (Tom), Begalka, Frerichs, Krebs, Novstrup (Al), and Peters and Representatives Street, Greenfield, Rozum, Sigdestad, and Tulson

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish the Regional Watershed Advisory Task Force.

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

3 Section 1. There is hereby established the Regional Watershed Advisory Task Force. The
4 task force shall consist of the following fourteen members:

5 (1) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members of the
6 House of Representatives, no more than two of whom may be from one political
7 party;

8 (2) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint three members of the
9 general public. At least one of the members shall have a background in natural
10 resources law, science, or management, and at least one of the members shall have
11 an agricultural or business background;

12 (3) The president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint four members of the Senate,
13 no more than two of whom may be from one political party; and

14 (4) The president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint three members of the general



1 public. At least one of the members shall have a background in natural resources law,
2 science, or management, and at least one of the members shall have an agricultural
3 or business background.

4 The initial appointments shall be made no later than July 1, 2012, and shall serve until
5 January 12, 2013. The speaker of the House of Representatives and president pro tempore of the
6 Senate, before the close of each regular session of the Legislature held in odd-numbered years,
7 shall appoint members to the task force for a term of two years. If there is a vacancy on the task
8 force, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

9 Section 2. The Regional Watershed Advisory Task Force established pursuant to section 1
10 of this Act shall conduct studies and evaluations on matters relating to drainage, erosion, flood
11 control, reclamation, environmental protection, and improvement of lands, soils, waters, and all
12 other authorized purposes and may advise any new or existing special purpose district or
13 government entity on such issues. In addition, the task force shall consider potential alternative
14 organizational structures and entities appropriate to address such issues. The task force shall
15 report to the Senate and House of Representatives and may submit a copy of its report to the
16 Governor. The task force may present draft legislation and policy recommendations to the
17 Legislative Research Council Executive Board. The task force shall make recommendations in
18 the following areas:

- 19 (1) The proper role, purposes, structure, powers, boundaries, and financing for regional
20 and local watershed districts and the relationship of such districts to other types of
21 water and natural resources-related special purpose districts;
- 22 (2) The role of watershed districts and other state and local government entities with
23 respect to drainage issues, including drainage planning and management, resolution
24 of drainage disputes, and recommendations for potential realignment of

1 responsibilities for drainage matters; and

2 (3) Potential alternative organizational structures, entities, and strategies appropriate to
3 address statewide, regional, and local issues relating to water and natural resources
4 conservation, protection, management, and use.

5 Section 3. The provisions of this Act are repealed on January 20, 2015.