

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1997

691A0693

HOUSE BILL NO. 1166

Introduced by: Representatives Haley, Cerny, Chicoine, Collier, Davis, Duxbury, Fischer-Clemens, Gleason, Hagen, Kazmerzak, Koetzle, Lee, Lockner, Lucas, Moore, Schaunaman, Schrempp, Sperry, Volesky, and Waltman and Senators Hunhoff, Dennert, Dunn (Rebecca), Flowers, Hutmacher, Kloucek, Lange, Lawler, Morford-Burg, Olson, Reedy, and Symens

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to create the South Dakota Commission on Higher Pay, to
2 prescribe its duties, and to make an appropriation therefor.

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

4 Section 1. There is hereby created the South Dakota Commission on Higher Pay. The
5 commission is charged with the assignment to study all relevant components of the state's
6 economic environment in an attempt to determine why the state's wage structure presently lags
7 behind national and regional averages. In doing so, the commission shall consider such factors
8 as industrial diversification, the impact of economic development, the predominance of
9 agriculture and tourism, infrastructure problems including failure to be part of the national rail
10 and air network, unemployment and underemployment, geographical concerns, housing, the
11 depopulation of the farming communities, the concentration of new growth along the interstate
12 highway system, the inability of small town financial institutions to provide investment capital,
13 the unique employment problems of the reservations, out-migration of college graduates,
14 vocational training, population demographics, the role of state government in economic

1 development, and any other considerations that the commission may identify and deem
2 significant. Upon completion of its charge, or from time to time as it deems appropriate, the
3 commission shall report its findings and conclusions and shall recommend corrective legislation
4 to the Legislature.

5 Section 2. The commission shall be composed of thirteen members each appointed for the
6 life of the commission by the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council. Two
7 members of the commission shall be legislators, one from each political party. At least one
8 member on the commission shall represent labor, industry, small business, the retail and service
9 trades, agriculture, and the Lakota nation. Some members should have a familiarity with
10 economics, demographics, transportation systems, infrastructure, and education. No more than
11 eight members of the commission may be of the same political party. Any vacancy on the
12 commission shall be filled by an appropriate appointment by the Executive Board of the
13 Legislative Research Council.

14 Section 3. The initial chair shall be appointed by the Executive Board for a one-year term.
15 Thereafter the commission shall select its own chair.

16 Section 4. The commission shall meet a minimum of eight times per year. At least six
17 meetings per year shall be scheduled outside of the state capital including rural areas and
18 reservations to facilitate a broad spectrum of public testimony and to provide the commission
19 with an opportunity to view a maximum of varied economic environments on site.

20 Section 5. The commission shall report to the Executive Board from time to time as it deems
21 appropriate but not less than annually. The commission may report findings and conclusions or
22 recommend legislation at any time. If the commission finds it desirable to contract for consulting
23 services, it shall submit a timely budget request to the Executive Board.

24 Section 6. The members of the commission shall receive per diem and expenses as provided
25 by statute.

1 Section 7. The commission terminates on June 30, 2000.

2 Section 8. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of twenty-five
3 thousand dollars (\$25,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, to the Legislative Research
4 Council to provide for per diem and expenses for the Commission on Higher Pay.

5 Section 9. Expenditures authorized by this Act shall be paid on warrants drawn by the state
6 auditor on vouchers approved by the director of the Legislative Research Council.

7 Section 10. Any funds not lawfully expended or obligated by June 30, 2000, shall revert to
8 the general fund in accordance with § 4-8-21.