

# State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2004

636J0726

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

ENGROSSED NO. **SB 171** - 02/02/2004

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

Introduced by: Senator Olson (Ed) and Representatives Sebert, Olson (Mel), and Sigdestad

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions concerning the organization of  
2 civil townships.

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

4 Section 1. That chapter 8-1 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
5 follows:

6 Any township may be reestablished pursuant to this Act if such township contains at least  
7 five resident voters. For the purposes of this Act, the term, reestablishment, means organizing  
8 a township that has been dissolved.

9 Section 2. That chapter 8-1 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
10 follows:

11 Any township may be reestablished subject to approval by the voters in any unorganized  
12 congressional township as provided in this Act, if:

- 13 (1) The board of county commissioners proposes that the township be reestablished; or  
14 (2) Fifteen percent of the registered voters residing in the affected township petition the  
15 board of county commissioners proposing that the township be reestablished.



1 Section 3. That chapter 8-1 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
2 follows:

3 If one of the conditions of section 2 of this Act is met, the board of county commissioners  
4 shall hold a public hearing to consider the proposed reestablishment. The hearing may be  
5 conducted in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting of the board. At least twenty days  
6 before the hearing, the board shall publish notice of the hearing in the official newspapers of the  
7 county.

8 Section 4. That chapter 8-4 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
9 follows:

10 Following the hearing required in section 3 of this Act, the proposed reestablishment shall  
11 be decided by the voters of the affected civil townships on the date set for the township election  
12 by the board of county commissioners. Any registered voter residing in the affected portion of  
13 an unorganized congressional township shall be afforded the opportunity to vote. If a majority  
14 of the votes cast in the township are in favor of the proposed reestablishment, the proposal shall  
15 be implemented as provided in this chapter.