

Advocacy by South Dakota Voices for Children prompts change

A report on 2011 legislative priorities

Healthy

House Bill 1045

Authorize dental hygienists to provide preventive and therapeutic services to more persons under certain circumstances. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Jenna Hagggar. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

House Bill 1120

Require persons applying or receiving certain aid from the state to submit to drug and substance testing. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Mark Kirkeby. **Voices' position:** Oppose. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by House Health and Human Services Committee. **Status for children:** GAIN.

House Bill 1152

Provide for drug testing of certain TANF recipients. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Mark Venner. **Voices' position:** Oppose. **Outcome:** Lost in full House. **Status for children:** GAIN.

House Bill 1254

Prohibits the use of bisphenol A and cadmium in certain products. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Mark Feinstein. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by House Health and Human Services Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Senate Bill 118

Expand Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women and to provide an appropriation therefore. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Stan Adelstein. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by Senate Health and Human Services Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS .

Senate Bill 149

Establish policies for youth athletes with concussions resulting from participation in youth athletic activities. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Todd Schlekeway. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.
House passed 52-16; Senate passed 31-4.

Senate Bill 163

Revise the penalties for violations concerning smoking in public. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Tom Nelson. **Voices' position:** Oppose. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by Senate Judiciary Committee. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Educated

House Bill 1070

Require school districts to employ certified school counselors and to prohibit school districts from employing counselors who are not certified. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Jacqueline Sly. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

2 – Advocacy by SDVC prompts changes

Senate Bill 104

Require each school district to develop a policy to prohibit bullying that meets certain requirements. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Stan Adelstein. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by Senate Education Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Safe

House Bill 1221

Establish a taskforce on teen driving safety. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Nick Moser. **Voices' position:** Initiate. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN. *House passed 44-24; Senate passed 32-2.*

House Bill 1224

Provide a maximum finance charge for payday loans and title loans. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Steve Hickey. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to the 41st day by House Commerce & Energy Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

House Bill 1241

Revises certain penalties for the sale or service of an alcoholic beverage to a person under the age of 21. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Brock Greenfield. **Voices' position:** Oppose. **Outcome:** Passed House; defeated in Senate. **Status for children:** GAIN.

House Bill 1255

Provides for the award of joint physical custody of children under certain circumstances. **Prime sponsor:** Committee on Health and Human Services. **Voices' position:** Oppose. **Outcome:** Passed House; defeated in Senate. **Status for children:** GAIN. *House passed 53-16; Senate passed 20-13.*

Senate Bill 13

Revise certain evidentiary rules relating to the statements of children. **Prime sponsor:** Department of Social Services. **Voices' position:** Endorse. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Senate Bill 54

Criminalize certain acts exploiting minors and to provide a penalty therefore. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Dan Lederman. **Voices' position:** Endorse. **Outcome:** Sent to the 41st day by Senate Judiciary Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Senate Bill 71

Prohibit the use of certain handheld electronic wireless devices for electronic messaging while driving. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Craig Tieszan. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed Senate and sent to 41st day by House Local Government Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Senate Bill 81

Require the Supreme Court to promulgate rules for parenting coordinators. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Joni Cutler. **Voices' position:** Endorse. **Outcome:** Passed Senate; failed in House. **Status for children:** LOSS.

3 – Advocacy by SDVC prompts changes

Senate Bill 100

Repeal certain provisions regarding unemployment insurance benefit eligibility of workers attending approved training. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Al Novstrup. **Voices' position:** Active opposition. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by Senate Commerce & Energy Committee. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Senate Bill 114

Provide the parties to a divorce or separate maintenance action be restrained from making changes to insurance coverage. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Elizabeth Kraus. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN. *House passed 68-1; Senate passed 35-0.*

Senate Bill 115

Prohibit the use of certain wireless communication devices while driving. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Stan Adelstein. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to the 41st day by Senate Judiciary Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Senate Bill 173

Allow specific details of alleged sex crimes against minor be suppressed under certain conditions. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Joni Cutler. **Voices' position:** Endorse. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Senate Bill 176

Provide for the crime of human trafficking, to establish the elements and degrees of the crime, and to provide penalties for the violations thereof. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Joni Cutler. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Senate Bill 178

Revise certain provisions relating to the rights and duties of joint legal custodians. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Mike Vehle. **Voices' position:** Endorse. **Outcome:** passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.

Budget

Voices' position: Oppose state budget cuts that harm children, document the harm that would be caused by such cuts, and encourage implementing a balanced approach to the crisis that could include budget reserves, new revenues — including a temporary sales tax increase while removing the sales tax on food — and assessing efficiencies possible within state government services. **Outcome:** A balanced approach was not followed ... rather a cut-only approach was adopted. The consequences for children included an 8.6 percent cut to k-12 education funding, a 10 percent cut to Medicaid reimbursement, and a reduction of child care assistance by reducing eligibility for working families from 200 percent to 175 percent of the federal poverty level. **Status for children:** LOSS.

House Bill 1131

Lower the state sales and use tax on food and increase the the rate of taxation on other goods and services. **Prime sponsor:** Rep. Mark Feinstein. **Voices' position:** Active support. **Outcome:** Sent to 41st day by House Taxation Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

4 – Advocacy by SDVC prompts changes

Senate Bill 174

Temporarily increase the state sales and use tax to fund the state budget shortfall and declare an emergency. **Prime sponsor:** Sen. Stan Adelstein. **Voices' position:** Endorse this and similar bills. **Outcome:** Sent to the 41st day by Senate State Affairs Committee. **Status for children:** LOSS.

Senate Bill 191

Repeal certain provisions for the sales tax on food refund program. **Prime sponsor:** Governor's office. **Voices' position:** Oppose; active support. **Outcome:** Passed and signed by the governor. **Status for children:** GAIN.