

Report Date: February 9, 2023

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Next Hearing	Last Three Actions	Position
HB 2	Llew Jones(R) HD 18	8:00AM 02/09/2023 House Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Hearing Room 102	02/10/23 - Hearing 02/09/23 - Hearing 02/08/23 - Hearing	Neutral

#### General Appropriations Act

1/7/2023 - CAMPS will watch this bill. We have provided legislators with the OPI Audit completed in 2022 as well as some key questions to ask during the OPI presentation. Of note in the OPI Budget is a transfer of money from OPI to DPHHS for transfer of CSCT management. Of note in the audit is a question about ESSER accountability, specifically for the hold back of ESSER funds.

1/7/2023 - OPI Financial Audit, Released summer 2022, FY 20 & 21:

https://leg.mt.gov/content/Committees/Administration/audit/2021-22/Meetings/June-2022/21-19.pdf

1/7/2023 - OPI Proposed Budget:

https://leg.mt.

gov/content/Publications/fiscal/2025-Biennium/2025-Biennium-Budget-Analysis/Section-E/OPI-Budget-Analysis-25Bien.pdf

1/3/2023 - "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025"

HB 3	Llew Jones(R) HD 18	1:00PM 02/09/2023 Third Reading House Floor	02/08/23 - 2nd Reading Passed 02/08/23 - Scheduled for 2nd Reading 02/03/23 - Printed - New Version Available	Support
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### Supplemental Appropriations Bill

1/3/2023 - OPI requesting \$86K. Use of funds as described from OPI representative - The \$86K is for the National Board Certification program (20-4-134, MCA). OPI has a biennial appropriation of \$150k which we expended \$97k of that in FY2022 so we will need a supplemental to cover distributions over the appropriation for FY2023. As an FYI, in our Executive Budget we also have a request to increase the appropriation as participation has increased over the past couple of years. SAM supports the funding for NBCT incentive program. The bill was also supported by CAMPS during public testimony on 1/3

1/2/2023 - AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

3	HB 15	David Bedey(R) HD 86	3:00PM 02/09/2023 Senate Finance and Claims Hearing	02/09/23 - Hearing 02/06/23 - Rereferred to Committee 02/06/23 - 2nd Reading	Support
Room 303 Concurred			Room 303	Concurred	

#### Implement K-12 Inflation

1/11/2023 - EA: Questions about amount and length of time. Motion passes.

1/7/2023 - Bill provides 2.7% in FY24 and 3.0% in FY25. CAMPS will support this bill, with a mention that inflation is currently higher than 3% and budget surplus. Doug will provide testimony on behalf of CAMPS. Testimony here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Rj9wq0wlOz-KCe7ilGFO8SnTJcyix9IF/edit?

usp=sharing&ouid=108640981809976839399&rtpof=true&sd=true

1/6/2023 - This inflationary bill provides 2.7% in FY24 and 3.0% in FY25.

12/31/2022 - An act applying inflationary adjustments to school funding formula components; amending section 20-9-306, MCA; and providing an effective date and an applicability date.



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HB 346	Jonathan Windy Boy(D) HD 32		02/08/23 - Hearing 02/03/23 - Fiscal Note Printed 02/03/23 - Fiscal Note Signed	Support

Revise the tribal computer programming scholarship program

2/8/2023 - Testimony: On behalf of CAMPS (detail membership organizations) we rise in support of this bill and thank Rep Windy Boy for bringing this bill forward. As educational organizations, we are in support of the tribal computer programming boost scholarship program as it seeks to support the development of computer coding and economic development in Indian country. We support the notion of scholarships to support professional development to train our staff to deliver these important technical skills for those students in Indian country. We also support the transfer of administration of this program to DLI as the focus of this program is technology related economic development and we see this a better fit under DLI.

2/8/2023 - AN ACT REVISING THE TRIBAL COMPUTER PROGRAMMING BOOST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; CONSOLIDATING ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY; EXPANDING THE TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT OF THE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLTEACHERS

HB 408	Sue Vinton(R) HD 56	9:00AM 02/09/2023	02/09/23 - Hearing	Support
		House Taxation	02/03/23 - First Reading 02/03/23 - Referred to	
		Hearing	Committee	
		Room 152		

Revise student scholarship organization and innovative education tax credits

2/5/2023 - This bill increases the cap on the donations program, for both the public and private side. In addition, provides more flexibility regarding how districts can use the funds.

Here are some comments from Lance:

"We have a resolution seeking to more broadly distribute the tax credit to additional districts and to expand use to include capital equipment and facilities used to support innovative educational programs. This is a draft directed by Jones into which I have had substantial input. We definitely need to support (MTSBA, not everyone else). It is a good bill though."

"Once Espinoza was issued, no more constitutional violations. So we turned our efforts last session to ensuring that there was a public side, which we got against the wishes of the sponsor with help from Senator Salomon. Now they are increasing both sides to \$5 million and are expanding public side use for capital equipment and facilities for innovative educational programming."

2/3/2023 - "AN ACT REVISING THE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION AND INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INCOME TAX CREDITS; INCREASING THE AGGREGATE LIMITS FOR THE CREDITS; LIMITING THE AMOUNT OF DONATIONS THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY RETAIN; PROVIDING FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS THAT EXCEED A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S LIMIT TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT RECEIVE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY AID; REVISING THE DEFINITION OF "INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM"; PROVIDING A STATUTORY APPROPRIATION;

HB 393 Sue Vinton(R) HD 56 3:00PM 02/15/2023 02/15/23 - Hearing Oppose
House 02/07/23 - Hearing Canceled
Education 02/03/23 - Legal Review
Hearing Note
Room 137

Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act

2/7/2023 - There is a legal note with this bill. May create a constitutionality concern. See: https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2023/LRC//HB0393.pdf

2/7/2023 - AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO ESTABLISHING THE STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACT AND THE MONTANA SPECIAL NEEDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROGRAM; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY AND ALLOWABLE EXPENSES; PROVIDING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PARENTS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION; CLARIFYING THE AUTONOMY OF PARTICIPATING PRIVATE SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING OF SPECIAL NEEDS



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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS; ESTABLISHING THE SPECIAL NEEDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION SAVINGS TRUST; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION AND A STATUTORY APPROPRIATION; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS;

HB 171 David Bedey(R) HD 86 3:00PM 02/15/2023 02/15/23 - Hearing Neutral

Senate 02/07/23 - Rereferred to

Education and Cultural Committee

Resources 02/06/23 - Referred to

Hearing Committee

Room 422

Revise education laws related to residential treatment facilities

1/11/2023 - Hearing notes: No fiscal note yet. Could be high - according to bill sponsor. Proponents: Shodair, AWARE, Intermountain Childrens Home, Yellowstone Boys/Girls Ranch. This is a clean up bill as Therapeutic Group homes were left out of previous bill. Disability rights MT, technically an opponent, proposed amendments. Disability Rights explained that a portion of the cost is borne by DPHHS and a portion by IDEA \$\$, determination of placement is made by team, including parent. P3, Line 23 in bill leaves out process for decision making of IEP team. Disability Rights also recommended using term "serious emotional disturbance" rather than ED as it had a more specific meeting to medicaid.

1/7/2023 - AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN RECEIVING INPATIENT TREATMENT OF EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS; ADDING AND REVISING DEFINITIONS; INCLUDING THERAPEUTIC GROUP HOMES IN THE LIST OF FACILITIES QUALIFYING FOR STATE PAYMENTS; REVISING THE CALCULATION OF STATE FUNDING FOR THE EDUCATIONAL COSTS OF CHILDREN RECEIVING INPATIENT TREATMENT OF EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS; PROVIDING ADDITIONAL DUTIES FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION; ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

HB 147 Jane Gillette(R) HD 64 3:00PM 02/15/2023 02/15/23 - Hearing Neutral

Room 317

Senate 02/06/23 - Referred to

Public Health, Welfare Committee

and Safety 02/03/23 - First Reading Hearing

Enhance Medicaid rates for certain children's mental health services

1/12/2023 - Hearing notes: Out of state placements cost 133%. This bill would give that rate to in-state PRTFs and Therapeutic group homes. Proponents: ED NAMI MT, Ability MT, Dr. Willson MTAAP. Opponents: none. Question about stats: 194 youth in PRTF, 91 in therapeutic group home (out of state).

1/7/2023 - While this bill would not directly impact schools, could be helpful for those children receiving mental health services under medicaid. Restricted to kids in psychiatric residential treatment facility or therapeutic group homes. CAMPS not planning to testify on this bill.

1/3/2023 - AN ACT CREATING AN ENHANCED MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR PROVIDERS OF CERTAIN CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO INCREASE ACCESS TO IN-STATE CARE FOR HIGH-RISK CHILDREN WITH MULTIAGENCY SERVICE NEEDS; CREATING A REPORTING REQUIREMENT; PROVIDING A DEFINITION; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

HB 21 David Bedey(R) HD 86 1:00PM 02/09/2023 02/08/23 - 2nd Reading Support

Third Reading Concurred

Senate Floor 02/08/23 - Scheduled for

2nd Reading

01/31/23 - Committee Report--Bill Concurred as

Amended

Amended

Revising process for adoption of school accreditation standards

1/4/2023 - This bill clarifies process for reviewing accreditation standards as well as the process for economic impact. Clarifies that OPI must include monies in their budget if there is an economic impact. CAMPS supported the bill with testimony delivered by Doug.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Q10xhBu-OIWqg-KWOLIEi3xACG-Qvcpy/view



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12/31/2022 - "AN ACT REVISING THE PROCESS FOR ADOPTION OF SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS; REQUIRING THAT ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR CERTAIN ACCREDITATION STANDARDS INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE TIME REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION; REASSIGNING THE REVIEW OF ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENTS TO LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEES; REQUIRING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO REQUEST THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO SEEK FUNDING FOR STANDARDS DETERMINED DURING THE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM TO REQUIRE SUBSTANTIAL EXPENDITURES; AMENDING SECTION 20-7-101, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND A TERMINATION DATE."

HB 287 Jonathan Windy Boy(D) HD 32

1:00PM 02/09/2023 Third Reading 02/08/23 - 2nd Reading Passed

Support

House Floor

02/08/23 - Scheduled for

2nd Reading

02/02/23 - Printed - New

Version Available

Revise laws related to Indian language preservation

1/24/2023 - The bill has more specific application and reporting requirements for tribes, school districts and OPI. Funding will go to tribal governments for implementation.

1/24/2023 - AN ACT REVISING THE MONTANA INDIAN LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM; EMPHASIZING THE PERPETUATION OF INDIAN LANGUAGES THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS; MODIFYING THE PROGRAM PARAMETERS AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS; EMPHASIZING THE ROLES OF TRIBAL EDUCATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENTS AND OF INDIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL SPECIALISTS; REVISING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS;

HB 403 David Bedey(R) HD 86

3:00PM 02/13/2023

02/13/23 - Hearing

House Education Hearing 02/06/23 - First Reading 02/06/23 - Referred to

Committee

Room 137

Generally revise laws concerning fees for teacher and specialist certificates

1/7/2023 - AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO TEACHER AND SPECIALIST LICENSURE; REVISING THE USE AND SETTING OF FEES FOR TEACHER AND SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION FEES. Currently, a portion of teacher licensure fees go to BPE. This bill would keep all fees at OPI to cover the maintenance cost of new licensure system. There is funding in Govn. budget to replace the funding at BPE. Cross reference is HB 22.

HB 361 Brandon Ler(R) HD 35

02/08/23 - Hearing

Oppose

**Under Review** 

01/31/23 - Introduced Bill Text Available Electronically 01/30/23 - First Reading

Provide that use of a name and sex by a student is not discrimination

2/2/2023 - This bill could require districts to violate 20-5-208. LINK:

https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title 0200/chapter 0050/part 0020/section 0080/0200-0050-0020-0080.html

2/2/2023 - Federal Advice: It should be noted that this came out of Betsy Devos' office and emphasized that in spite of rescinding previous guidance (which has since been reinstated by the way), that bullying and harassment prohibitions would continue to be enforced. See quoted language: "Please note that this withdrawal of these guidance documents does not leave students without protections from discrimination, bullying, or harassment. All schools must ensure that all students, including LGBT students, are able to learn and thrive in a safe environment. The Department of Education Office for Civil Rights will continue its duty under law to hear all claims of discrimination and will explore every appropriate opportunity to protect all students and to encourage civility in our classrooms. The Department of Education and the Department of Justice are committed to the application of Title IX and other federal laws to ensure such protection."

1/31/2023 - New Section: The trustees of a school district may not adopt a policy that subjects a student to disciplinary action for behavior that is not considered an unlawful discriminatory practice pursuant to 49-2-307(2).

Don't think this statement is workable. School districts adopt lots of discipline policies for actions that may not be defined in unlawful discriminatory practices. For example: a student could be disciplined for assault, which is not in the list of unlawful discriminatory practice.



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1/31/2023 - AN ACT REVISING LAWS REGARDING DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN EDUCATION; PROVIDING THAT IT IS NOT A DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE FOR A STUDENT TO CALL A STUDENT BY THE STUDENT'S LEGAL NAME OR REFERENCE THE STUDENT BY THE STUDENT'S SEX;

HB 396 Naarah Hastings(R) HD 50

02/08/23 - Hearing 02/06/23 - First Reading Support with amendments

02/06/23 - Referred to

Committee

Require school trustees to admit resident children on a part-time basis

2/7/2023 - Change to state law: MCA 20-5-101

(8) The trustees shall assign and admit a child who is enrolled in a nonpublic or home school and who meets the requirements of subsection (1) as a part-time enrollee at the request of the child's parent or guardian."

Change to state law: MCA 20-5-102

A child enrolled in a nonpublic or home school may enroll on a part-time basis in a public school."

1/4/2023 - AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO THE ADMITTANCE OF CHILDREN TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING TRUSTEES TO ADMIT RESIDENT SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN ON A PART-TIME BASIS AT THE PARENT'S REQUEST

SB 266 Theresa Manzella(R) SD 44 02/08/23 - Hearing

Neutral

No Position

Neutral

02/03/23 - First Reading 02/03/23 - Referred to

Committee

Generally revise child abuse and neglect laws

2/5/2023 - AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT LAWS; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PARENTAL CONTACT AND DECISION MAKING WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDES PROTECTIVE SERVICES; REVISING IMMUNITY LAWS TO EXEMPT FROM IMMUNITY ANYONE WHO ENCOURAGES OR COERCES A CHILD TO WITHHOLD INFORMATION FROM A PARENT OR PROVIDE FALSE INFORMATION ABOUT A PARENT;

HB 391 Sherry Essmann(R) HD 52

02/08/23 - Hearing 02/03/23 - First Reading

02/03/23 - Referred to

Committee

Require local user fee on certain exempt property

2/6/2023 - This bill applies to non-profits using tax exempt property. Does not apply to schools.

2/5/2023 - AN ACT REQUIRING CITIES AND COUNTIES TO COLLECT A USER FEE ON CERTAIN EXEMPT PROPERTY; PROVIDING THE PROPERTY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE FEE; PROVIDING THAT THE FEE MUST BE USED FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ROAD MAINTENANCE; PROVIDING THAT THE FEE MUST BE BASED ON SQUARE FOOTAGE OR A FLAT FEE IF THERE ARE NO IMPROVEMENTS; AND PROVIDING A DEFINITION.

HB 359 Braxton Mitchell(R) HD 3 8:00AM 02/09/2023 House

02/09/23 - Hearing

01/31/23 - Amendments

Judiciary Available

Hearing 01/31/23 - Introduced Bill Room 137 Text Available Electronically

Prohibit minors from attending drag shows

2/9/2023 - SAM will not testify on this bill as we believe the issue as defined in the bill is not relevant in MT schools currently. The bill narrowly defines "drag performance" and we believe it is not occurring in schools. "Drag performance" means a performance in which a performer exhibits a gender identity that is different than the performer's gender assigned at birth using clothing, makeup, or other physical markers and sings, lip syncs, dances, or otherwise performs for entertainment to appeal to a prurient interest. Other notes from the bill: A school that receives any form of funding from the state may not allow a drag performance as defined in [section 1] on its premises during school hours or at any school-sanctioned extracurricular activity. School personnel convicted of violating the prohibition under this section shall be fined \$5,000 and, if applicable, the board of public education shall initiate proceedings to suspend the teacher, administrator, or specialist certificate of the offender under



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20-4-110 for 1 year.

1/17/2023 - AN ACT PROHIBITING MINORS FROM ATTENDING DRAG SHOWS: PROHIBITING MINORS FROM ENTERING SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES: PROHIBITING DRAG PERFORMANCES IN LIBRARIES OR SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVE STATE FUNDING; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES.

HB 234 Bob Phalen(R) HD 36 1:00PM 02/09/2023 02/08/23 - 2nd Reading Neutral

> Third Reading Passed

House Floor 02/08/23 - Motion Carried

02/08/23 - Motion Failed

Revise dissemination of obscene material to minors laws

1/20/2023 - SAM decided not to weigh in on this bill. If it passes, there is a danger that school staff could face criminal prosecution for providing obscene materials, however, that charge would have to meet definition in law and would have to be supported by local county attorney - which may be highly unlikely given the breadth of the definition. However, opposing the bill may have created harm to the organization as we would have been seen as trying to support the idea that we want our members to have the freedom to provide obscene (also called pornographic in committee hearing) materials to minors. Not a favorable position for SAM. There is a legitimate fear of government controlled censorship created by this bill, which was a very clear argument made by public libraries. Public libraries are in a better position to make this argument as they serve both children and adults.

1/18/2023 - Statement from MTSBA: The bill is a bit confusing. Not because of the way the bill is drafted but because of the way the underlying law is drafted. The underlying law says it is illegal to display obscene material to children, but it creates an exception for libraries and schools. I can't imagine the discussion that took place when this law was first drafted where someone asked for an exemption from the law, so that we could distribute obscene material to children. Fighting this bill at this point will allow others to claim that we are seeking to "continue" providing obscene material to children. We won't make any difference in the outcome of this bill by weighing in, but it will harm our credibility in other areas where we need collaboration.

The following definition is what we would be seeking to allow school districts to show the kids if we oppose the bill, which is proposing to eliminate the exemption for public schools from compliance with this law.

45-8-201(2) A thing is obscene if:

- (a) (i) it is a representation or description of perverted ultimate sexual acts, actual or simulated;
- (ii) it is a patently offensive representation or description of normal ultimate sexual acts, actual or simulated; or
- (iii) it is a patently offensive representation or description of masturbation, excretory functions, or lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
- (b) taken as a whole the material:
- (i) applying contemporary community standards, appeals to the prurient interest in sex;
- (ii) portrays conduct described in subsection (2)(a)(i), (2)(a)(ii), or (2)(a)(iii) in a patently offensive way; and
- (iii) lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

1/15/2023 - AN ACT REVISING LAWS REGARDING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OR DISSEMINATION OF OBSCENE MATERIAL TO MINORS; REMOVING EXCEPTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REMOVING EXCEPTIONS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

HJ<sub>1</sub> Lola Sheldon-Galloway(R) HD 22 1:00PM 02/09/2023 02/08/23 - 2nd Reading Support

Senate Floor

Third Reading Concurred

2nd Reading

02/08/23 - Scheduled for

02/08/23 - Scheduled for

2nd Reading

Request interim study on missing youth



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1/12/2023 - A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF MISSING YOUTH; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 69TH LEGISLATURE.

SB 99 John Fuller(R) SD 4 02/08/23 - 3rd Reading Neutral

Passed

02/08/23 - Scheduled for 3rd

Reading

02/07/23 - 2nd Reading

Passed

### Provide for a youth health protection act

1/9/2023 - AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A YOUTH HEALTH PROTECTION ACT; PROHIBITING CERTAIN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL TREATMENTS TO TREAT MINORS WITH GENDER DYSPHORIA; PROHIBITING PUBLIC FUNDS, PROGRAMS, PROPERTY, AND EMPLOYEES FROM BEING USED FOR THESE TREATMENTS; PROVIDING THAT A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL WHO VIOLATES THIS LAW COMMITS PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT; PROVIDING A PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION; PROHIBITING DISCHARGE OF PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY VIA INSURANCE;

SB 200 Greg Hertz(R) SD 6 02/08/23 - Hearing Oppose

02/06/23 - Hearing

01/31/23 - Hearing Canceled

Revise use of party affiliation for nonpartisan races

1/31/2023 - This bill would require an elections administrator to include a candidate's political party affiliation for a non-partisan office if they candidate lists their political party affiliation on a declaration for nomination. The bill specifically includes the language that, "A candidate for a trustee position may indicate the candidate's political party affiliation on the candidate's declaration of intent." MTSBA will speak on behalf of the Coalition.