

At A Glance

Here's a look at legislators who have been appointed in the past eight years by governors.

2015-2016 Term
Rep. Wayne Steinhauer, R-Hartford. District 9 (Minnehaha County). Born 1956. Appointed Nov. 19, 2015, by Gov. Dennis Daugaard to replace former Rep. Steve Hickey, R-Sioux Falls, who resigned. Assigned to House Commerce and Energy Committee and House Transportation Committee.
Sen. William Shorma, R-Dakota Dunes. District 16 (Lincoln, Union counties). Born 1955. Appointed April 30, 2015, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Sen. Dan Lederman, R-Dakota Dunes, who resigned. Assigned to Senate Commerce and Energy Committee, Senate Health and Human Services Committee and Senate Transportation Committee.
Sen. Scott Fiegen, R-Dell Rapids. District 25 (Minnehaha County). Born 1966. Appointed May 6, 2015, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Sen. Tim Rave, R-Baltic, who resigned. Assigned to Senate Local Government Committee and Senate Taxation Committee.

2013-2014 Term
Rep. David Anderson, R-Hudson. District 16 (Lincoln, Union counties). Born 1956. Appointed May 13, 2013, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Rep. Patty Miller, R-McCook Lake, who resigned. Won 2014 election.
Rep. Kris Langer, R-Dell Rapids. District 25 (Minnehaha County). Born 1969. Appointed Aug. 15, 2013, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Rep. Jon Hansen, R-Dell Rapids, who resigned. Won 2014 election.
Rep. Mark Willadsen, R-Sioux Falls. District 11 (Minnehaha County). Born 1955. Appointed June 16, 2014, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Rep. Christine Erickson, R-Sioux Falls, who resigned. Willadsen previously served in the House 2005-2008 and 2011-2012. Won 2014 election.
Sen. Chuck Jones, R-Flandreau. District 8 (Lake, Miner, Moody and Sanborn counties). Born 1971. Appointed Dec. 17, 2013, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Sen. Russ Olson, R-Wentworth, who resigned. Lost 2014 election to then-Rep. Scott Parsley, D-Madison.
Sen. Alan Solano, R-Rapid

City. District 32 (Pennington County). Born 1966. Appointed Jan. 13, 2014, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Sen. Stan Adelstein, R-Rapid City, who resigned. Won 2014 election.
Sen. Blake Curd, R-Sioux Falls. District 12 (Minnehaha, Lincoln counties). Born 1967. Appointed June 5, 2013, by Gov. Daugaard to replace former Sen. Mark Johnston, R-Sioux Falls, who resigned. Won 2014 election. Previously served in House 2009-2010.

2011-2012 Term
Rep. David Scott, R-Geddes. District 21 (Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Gregory and Tripp counties). No birth year listed. Appointed Nov. 17, 2011, by Gov. Daugaard to replace Rep. Julie Bartling, D-Burke, and Rep. Lee Qualm, R-Platte, in re-drawn district.
Sen. Kent Juhnke, R-Vivian. District 21 (Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Gregory and Tripp counties). Born 1955. Appointed Nov. 17, 2011, by Gov. Daugaard to replace Sen. Cooper Garnos, R-Presho, who resigned. Lost 2012 election to Sen. Larry Lucas, D-

Mission, in re-drawn district.

2009-2010 Term
Rep. Kristin Conzet, R-Rapid City. District 32 (Pennington County). Born 1970. Appointed by Gov. Mike Rounds on Dec. 1, 2009, to replace Rep. Brian Dreyer, R-Rapid City, who resigned. Won elections in 2010, 2012 and 2014. Eligible to seek re-election in 2016.

2007-2008 Term
Rep. Brian Gosch, R-Rapid City. District 32 (Pennington County). Born 1971. Appointed by Gov. Rounds on Sept. 24, 2007, to replace Rep. Alan Hanks, R-Rapid City, who resigned. Won elections in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. Ineligible to seek election to fifth consecutive term in House in 2016.

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NorthWestern Energy gets OK to intervene on Dakota Access

By Bob Mercer
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE – NorthWestern Energy will get to make its case to state regulators about its deal to supply electricity for the pump station planned in Spink County for the Dakota Access oil pipeline.
Northern Electric Cooperative of Bath is the assigned rural provider in that territory. Northern Electric opposes allowing NorthWestern Energy to be the supplier. Dakota Access wants a service area exemption from the state Public Utilities commission so it can use NorthWestern Energy. A hearing date hasn't been set.
NorthWestern Energy and Dakota Access reached agreement in October but need permission from the commission to proceed.
The commission granted intervention status to NorthWestern Energy on Tuesday.

The deadline originally was July 6.

Tim Olson, a NorthWestern Energy official, said the company couldn't file to intervene until after the agreement was done.
NorthWestern Energy now can intervene in the commission's proceedings on the matter.
The other intervener is Northern Electric, whose lawyer filed June 23.
Brett Koenecke, a Pierre lawyer representing Dakota Access, supported intervention status for NorthWestern Energy at the meeting Tuesday.
No one participated in person or by telephone on behalf of Northern Electric.
The commission voted 3-0 in favor of allowing NorthWestern Energy to intervene. "It appears nobody has any objections," commissioner Kristie Fiegen said.

Hofer of Game, Fish, and Parks Commission to Retire?

By Bob Mercer
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE – There's no formal retirement announcement yet.
But something seemed afoot in recent months. Doug Hofer no longer attended meetings of the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission. For 30 years he had been a constant presence – until November and December came along this year.

The official story is Hofer, the long-time director for the state Division of Parks and Recreation, is simply taking an extended break to use paid leave he's accumulated.
Both he and new GFP Secretary Kelly Hepler said Hofer would return for the 2016 session of the Legislature that opens Jan. 12. The session is scheduled for 38 working days that wrap up March 29.
He began working for South Dakota's state parks system in the summer of 1970 as a seasonal employee.

He joined GFP as a full-time employee in March 1972. He became parks director on an acting – temporary – basis in September 1985.
He's hasn't left. But he turned age 65 in June 2014. Bob Schneider, his long-time deputy, now carries the title of acting director while Hofer is away.

Schneider said by email Friday that he thinks Hofer will be around to see the openings of the new visitor center being built at Custer State Park and the visitor center planned for Good Earth State Park at the Blood Run site south of Sioux Falls.
Hofer pretty much spilled the beans.

"I do hope to work part time on GESP and CSP projects after I retire this spring and see them to finish line," he wrote in an email Dec. 16 in response to a reporter's question.

Secretary Hepler helped cut through the mystery too. Doug is closing in on his retirement date sometime this coming spring after session and he wanted to have more time to hunt and do some farming this fall," Hepler replied in a Dec. 16 email.

"So Doug is working on a part time basis on some major projects such as Good Earth until January when he will return to full time work and resume his role as director. We put Bob in an acting status in the interim," Hepler continued.

For three full decades now as the division's director, he's been at the center of transforming South Dakota's system of state parks and recreation areas into an outdoors wonder.

He's served in the director's chair during six governorships – Bill Janklow, George S. Mickelson, Walter Dale Miller, Janklow again, Mike Rounds and Dennis Daugaard – and under five different GFP secretaries in Jeff Stingley, Dick Beringson, John Cooper, Jeff Vonk and Hepler.

South Dakota had 13 state parks designated in state law when he began and will have 13 when he leaves.

During his time as director, the Legislature agreed to change Hiddenwood in Walworth County from a state park to a recreation area in 1997 and designated Good Earth at Blood Run as a state

park in 2013.
But there's been substantial expansion. There are now 50 state recreation areas and state lakeside use areas where valid park licenses are required.

In 1994 the Legislature and the parks division created the George S. Mickelson Trail in the Black Hills using an old railroad route in honor of the late governor who died in the 1993 state-plane crash.

During the past decade GFP has come to receive lands in beautiful Spearfish Canyon as well for recreational uses such as hiking, trout fishing and sightseeing.

Many of the areas along the Missouri River came into the state's ownership and GFP's management through the federal Water Resources Development Act passed by Congress in 1999.

Tom Daschle was the Democratic leader of the U.S. Senate and Janklow, a Republican, was serving his fourth term as governor.

Missouri River water levels – sometimes too low to use many of the public boat ramps and sometimes flooding out campgrounds and homes – bedeviled GFP repeatedly during Hofer's career.

Custer State Park survived forest fires during Mickelson's governorship and pine beetle infestations most recently under Rounds and Daugaard.

Along the way Hofer helped steer Custer State Park's management through a controversial change to a professional lodging company that has made major improvements.

The annual fall roundup of the park's buffalo is now an international tourism event.

Next up at the park is the new visitor center, further improvements at existing facilities and what is described as a world-class documentary about the park's bison.

On the other end of South Dakota, Good Earth State Park is a joint project with Iowa to protect and historically develop a centuries-old tribal meeting grounds.

Likewise, development issues largely tied to the Sturgis motorcycle rally gradually have been resolved around Bear Butte State Park, a religiously significant mountain


for American Indian people, at the eastern edge of the Black Hills

He's worked closely with the non-profit South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation on raising donations and making land transfers for key projects.

His division also has been working to connect the Mickelson Trail to Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

All signs point to Hofer next spring wrapping up a professional career where he's had no other employer. Maybe.

"Still working on that part of the plan," he replied by email to a reporter's follow-up question. "Not sure yet."



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Fill the puzzle so that every row, every column, and every section contain the numbers 1-9 without repeating a number.

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1		8	2					9	7
					6	7			2
		7				4	1	3	9
3	9	4	6				5		
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EASY EA BOOK #60 #8

Last Tuesday's Solution

7	8	4	1	2	5	3	6	9
3	5	2	6	4	9	1	7	8
1	9	8	3	7	8	4	2	5
9	2	8	5	1	7	6	3	4
6	7	3	2	9	4	8	5	1
5	4	1	8	6	3	7	9	2
8	1	7	9	5	6	2	4	3
4	3	9	7	8	2	5	1	6
2	6	5	4	3	1	9	8	7

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Check next Tuesday's paper for the solution to today's puzzle.

CH BOOK #60 #5

With more funding to be available, SDDOT expands work plan for '16

By Bob Mercer
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE –The state Transportation Commission agreed Friday to add 10 highway projects totaling \$42 million to South Dakota's 2016 work plan.

Seven of those projects originally were scheduled for 2017 or 2018. The accelerated pace is possible because the South Dakota Department of Transportation is receiving additional money. An estimated \$15 million more is coming next year from the federal government, state Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist said. President Barack Obama signed the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act into federal law Dec. 4. The legislation increases federal funding for transportation projects by 11 percent over five years. The additional federal aid to South Dakota comes after the Legislature approved state tax increases on fuel and vehicles in March. Bergquist said his department will get about \$65 million more in state funding annually for highway projects.

Moving seven projects forward to 2016 came at the department staff's suggestion. The action will have "a domino effect" that opens slots in the 2017 and 2018 plans, according to Joel Jundt, director for DOT's division of planning and engineering. Bergquist said Congress hadn't passed a new federal highway act for 10 years. Instead a series of many temporary actions kept money flowing to states but didn't always provide certainty that states would be reimbursed for projects already under way. "Overall I'm really happy we finally have that behind us," Bergquist said.

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USD Expert: Holiday Drinking Spikes Heart Problems

Excessive alcohol consumption during the holidays, especially by occasional imbibers, sends a higher number of people to the hospital with heart trouble than any other time of year, a USD expert said of the condition known as "holiday heart syndrome."

John Korkow, Ph.D., an instructor at the University of South Dakota's Department of Addiction Studies, said hospital admissions for serious cardiac trouble immediately after the holidays can be double or even triple the normal rate because of excessive drinking. The reason: Heavy alcohol consumption can trigger severe heart rhythm disturbances that can cause stroke or heart failure. These heart disturbances can occur in drinkers who have no history of heart problems.

On the roads, 41 percent of fatal vehicle crashes are usually related to alcohol, but that jumps to 57 percent this time of year, Korkow said.

"Over holidays like Christmas, people who aren't normally drinkers are more likely to drink, and these people have less tolerance for alcohol and they don't understand their limits. That puts them at risk for dangerous behaviors," Korkow said.

He encourages people to pay attention to the size, potency and number of drinks they consume.

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