



2023 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1147

Introduced by: **Representative Chase**

1 **An Act to provide for the organization of townships or fractions of townships.**

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

3 **Section 1. That § 8-1-8 be AMENDED:**

4 **8-1-8.** Any township or fraction of a township may be organized, reorganized,
5 divided, or merged with another township or fraction of a township, subject to approval
6 by the voters in the affected civil townships and the affected portions of unorganized
7 congressional townships as provided in §§ 8-1-7 to 8-1-10, inclusive, if:

- 8 (1) The board of county commissioners proposes that the townships or fractions of
9 townships be reorganized, divided, or merged; ~~or~~
- 10 (2) The affected township boards propose to the board of county commissioners that
11 the townships or fractions of townships be reorganized, divided, or merged; or
- 12 (3) A majority of the registered voters residing in ~~the affected portions of~~ the affected
13 townships petition the board of county commissioners to propose that the
14 townships or fractions of townships be organized, reorganized, divided, or merged.

15 **Section 2. That § 8-1-9 be AMENDED:**

16 **8-1-9.** If the conditions of subdivision 8-1-8(1), (2), or (3) are met, the board of
17 county commissioners ~~shall~~ must hold a public hearing to consider the proposed
18 organization, reorganization, division, or merger. The hearing may be conducted in
19 conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting of the board of county commissioners. At
20 least twenty days before the hearing, the board of county commissioners shall publish
21 notice of the hearing in the official newspapers of the county and shall send the notice to
22 the township clerk and to each member of the board of supervisors of the affected
23 townships.