

Senate Rejects Effort To Ban Keystone XL-Pipeline Exports

BY DINA CAPPIELLO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Republican-controlled Senate on Tuesday rejected Democrats' bids to ban exports from the Keystone XL oil pipeline and to require building the project with American-made steel.

In largely party-line votes, the Senate sidetracked the first two additions to a bill seeking to approve construction of the 1,179 pipeline. Sen. Edward Markey of Massachusetts and Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota argued that their additions would ensure that the pipeline, which will carry an estimated 800,000 barrels of oil from the Canadian tar sands to Gulf Coast refineries, will benefit Americans with fuel and jobs.

"Proponents of the Keystone XL pipeline have made promises that it would increase our energy security, but when they are given the chance to support keeping that oil in the United States, they actively oppose my amendment to do so," Markey said.

But Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said such restrictions on a privately-funded energy project amounted to a "slippery slope."

The Senate overwhelmingly endorsed a bipartisan measure to boost energy efficiency.

The Keystone XL oil pipeline is the top priority on the Republican agenda this Congress. Democrats hope to use the legislation to score political points on key issues associated with the project, including its contribution to global warm-

ing. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island outlined Tuesday an eight-word measure that says: "Climate change is real and not a hoax."

But none of the measures are likely to sway more Democrats to vote for the bill. At a press conference Tuesday, Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said he also does not expect the amendments to inspire President Barack Obama to withdraw his veto threat and sign the pipeline bill into law.

As the Senate was debating, the pipeline's developer, TransCanada Corp. moved Tuesday to seize access to the Nebraska land it needs to finish the \$8 billion project — the first steps it's taken since the state's high court removed a major legal barrier.

Murkowski said that as of last week, 50 amendments had been filed.

Health Department Pushes Law Updates

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A state legislative committee has approved a bill that would modernize how the Department of Health responds to communicable disease outbreaks in the state.

Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health Tom Martinec says under the new proposal, anyone with a Category 1 disease who fails to or refuses to take medical action would be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. A Category 1 disease includes the most serious communicable diseases, like Ebola and SARS.

The House Health and Human Services approved the proposed changes 8 to 5 on Tuesday.

The changes would also give the health department a way to seek a judicial order quarantining any diseased person who fails or refuses to seek help.

Martinec says the department is pushing to update the laws following the Ebola scare last fall.

Man Could Be Responsible For Robberies

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police say they believe the same man could be responsible for three armed robberies in the past month.

Authorities said Tuesday the suspect has not been identified and is still at large. The suspect is believed responsible for a robbery Jan. 17 and two others Dec. 20.

Police say in each robbery, the suspect brandished a handgun, demanded money and fled. All robberies took place between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at convenience stores.

Police spokesman James Shade says investigation continues as detectives work to identify the suspect.

Peterson Establishes Agriculture Bureau

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson has created a stand-alone bureau in his office that will focus on agriculture, natural resources and the environment.

The new bureau was pulled from an existing section of state's Consumer Protection Division. Peterson said Tuesday that the bureau will focus on longstanding legal battles over water and federal regulations.

Justin Lavene, an assistant attorney general, will serve as the bureau's chief.

Lavene supervises the litigation support for Nebraska state agencies and boards, including the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Agriculture, the Game and Parks Commission, the Environmental Trust and state commodity boards.

Construction Starts After Deadly Collapse

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A year after the partial collapse of an Omaha animal feed processing plant killed two people and injured nine others, a new, modern plant is being built at the site.

After the Jan. 20, 2014, collapse of the International Nutrition plant, the facility was demolished.

Construction has begun on a new plant, and officials say it will look nothing like its predecessor.

Company president Steven Silver says the new design brings the building "up to today's code," with state-of-the-art mixing equipment and safety features. He says the plant will resume livestock feed production.

The Omaha World-Herald reports about six of the 25 employees laid off after the accident have been rehired, including at least one injured employee.

Silver says he expects the new plant to open by late summer.

SF Man Convicted Of Counterfeiting

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A Sioux Falls man convicted of making counterfeit money in order to buy drugs has been sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson says 29-year-old Joshua Lajoie made counterfeit \$20 bills and used them to purchase drugs. The drug dealers in turn spent the counterfeit money at Sioux Falls businesses, who reported the fake bills to police.

Johnson says his office believes 116 counterfeit \$20 bills were passed in the Sioux Falls area.

Lajoie has been ordered to make restitution of \$560 to various businesses. Following his 30 months in custody, he will have two years of supervised release.

Attorney General Gets Support Of Senate Panel On Raffle Rules

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Charity raffles that go astray should face the possibility of criminal prosecution in South Dakota, a state Senate panel agreed Tuesday.

The proposal from state Attorney General Marty Jackley goes to the full Senate today.

He said charity raffles essentially aren't regulated in South Dakota, other than a requirement that they be registered with the secretary of state.

Jackley's legislation, Senate Bill 18, would establish a three-step process:

There would be an 18-month window from the sale of the first ticket until the drawing is held;

If the organizers determine they can't meet the deadline, they would have 30 days to notify all purchasers that each purchaser is entitled to a full refund; and

Any uncollected refunds after six months would be turned over to the state's unclaimed property fund in the next 30 days.

A violation involving \$1,000 or less would be subject to criminal prosecution as a Class 1 misdemeanor. A violation involving more than \$1,000 would be subject to prosecution as a Class 6 felony punishable by up to two years in prison.

Jackley told the Senate Commerce and Energy Committee that his consumer protection office received 25

different complaints regarding lotteries from 2009 through 2014. He said most have been resolved.

One of the unresolved involves \$1,000 tickets and a prize of agricultural land in Moody County.

Jackley said it's possible to pursue theft under current South Dakota but proving intent is difficult on a raffle.

Erik Nelson representing South Dakota AARP testified in support. No opponents appeared.

Sen. Brock Greenfield, R-Clark, described Jackley's proposal as "a common-sense piece of legislation to help right something that is currently wrong."

The senators voted 7-0 to endorse its passage.

Deadwood Gambings Businesses May Face Larger Fines

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — People involved in Deadwood gambling businesses who break the rules would face more expensive punishments under a proposal moving forward in the Legislature.

The Senate Commerce and Energy Committee unanimously endorsed a measure Tuesday that would raise the maximum possible fine to \$250,000.

The legislation, Senate Bill 58, could face a Senate vote today (Wednesday).

The South Dakota Commission on Gaming, whose mem-

bers regulate Deadwood gambling, wants the larger fines.

Slot machine manufacturer distributors currently face a maximum of \$100,000. That would go to \$250,000 under the proposal.

For licensed operators, the maximum would increase from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

A retailer or gaming property owner would see the maximum double from \$12,500 to \$25,000.

The commission's executive secretary, Larry Eliason, said the possibility of a penalty involving "a check with a lot of zeroes" assists in preventing the repeat of a violation.

"We try to get compliance. We don't try to get the money," he said.

The larger fines are part of a broader set of changes involving the gaming commission, such as streamlining the process when an illegal slot machine is confiscated and must be disposed.

No one else testified on the bill. The committee supported it 7-0 but declined to put it on the consent calendar for near-automatic approval by the full Senate.

"I think it's important for the discussion to occur on the Senate floor," Sen. Blake Curd, R-Sioux Falls, said. He is the committee chairman.

Senate OKs Military Spouse Weapon Permit Measure

BY JAMES NORD
Associated Press

PIERRE — A proposal to allow active military members' spouses to hold a South Dakota concealed weapon permit is making headway in the state Legislature.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved Attorney General Marty Jackley's measure on Tuesday and sent it to the Senate.

Under the plan, spouses of military personnel who have permanent residency in South Dakota but are posted elsewhere could apply for a South Dakota permit that would give them permission to carry a concealed weapon in the roughly 25 states that have reciprocity. The permit would be necessary if they visited South Dakota and wanted to carry a firearm.

Current state law only extends those benefits to serving military personnel, and not their spouses.

Jackley's measure also authorizes military spouses who move to South Dakota from a different state to waive the 30-day wait period requirement for residency before they can get a permit.

Jackley used the example of a man who moved to Germany with his wife, who is in the military.

Kid Scoop

Gentle Giants in Danger

In shallow salty waters and rivers, a large, slow-moving creature swims and grazes. It is called a manatee. A shy and very gentle herbivore, it is completely harmless.

For almost 50 million years, manatees have grazed the earth's tropical lagoons, rivers and bays. In Florida alone, there were once thousands of manatees. But now there are less than 3,000 in Florida. They are in danger of becoming extinct.

Yikes! All too often the people who like to go boating in these same waters ignore the *Caution* signs. Manatees get cut by the sharp propellers and many die from these run-ins.

The warm, shallow waters where manatees live are disappearing or becoming polluted. This loss of habitat is another reason manatees are endangered.

Standards Link: Life Science; Living things depend on one another and the environment for survival; the physical conditions of the environment can change and these changes can be detrimental.

What's That?

Manatees are mammals. To what animal is the manatee related? Complete the maze to discover the answer.

START

Standards Link: Life Science; Diversity and genetic variation exist among organisms that share similar features.

The Mermaid Legend

Long ago, sailors told tales of lovely sea creatures called mermaids. When early European explorers first saw manatees, they thought they were mermaids. Christopher Columbus wrote in his log book that they were not as beautiful as he had thought they would be.

"They are not as beautiful as they are painted, to some extent they have a human appearance in the face."

Standards Link: Literary Analysis; Understand the origin and format of legends.

Find at least five differences between what Pirate Pete thinks he sees and what is really there.

Standards Link: Visual discrimination; Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Manatee Facts

Adult manatees eat over pounds of water plants each day.

Manatees come up for air every to minutes.

Manatee calves are feet (meter) long when they are born and weigh about pounds. They grow to be about feet-long and weigh about pounds.

THE MANATEE SECRET CODE

Standards Link: Life Science; When the environment changes because of natural or man-made forces some animals struggle to survive or become extinct.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

MANATEE
GENTLE
GIANTS
DANGER
MERMMAIDS
CALVES
TRASH
WARM
WATERS
SWIMS
SALTY
TEAM
CLEAN
FACE
TALES

S R E T A W S G A V
G E F A C E I S T S
H E S D I A M R E M
S E N H I L L E A
A T M T W A A V N E
R A S S L T A W E T
T N T C L E A N E S
D A N G E R E C L U
B M A I M S A L T Y

Standards Link: Letter sequencing; Recognizing identical words; Skim and scan reading; Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Animals in Sports

Look at the sports pages of your newspaper. How many teams are named for animals? Why do you think each team chose that animal name? If you were to name a team the Manatees, what kind of sport would they play?

Standards Link: Social science; Connecting current events to students' lives.

Write On!

I Met a Mermaid!

Finish this story.

V W S
A V
W V
E
S A

Manatees are the state marine mammals of Florida



In 1981 singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffet and Bob Graham, who was then governor of Florida, started the Save the Manatee Club because manatees were put on the international endangered wildlife list.

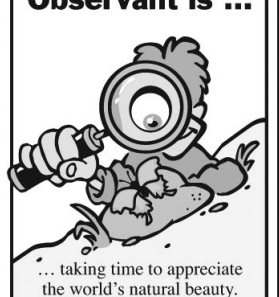
The goal of the club is to protect the habitats where manatees live and reduce manatee deaths due to human interaction.

On their website you can watch manatees on their web cam during the season. The scars on their bodies identify individual manatees.

You can also adopt a real manatee through the club and help protect those manatees at one of three locations in Florida. On registration you get a full biography and a picture of "your" manatee.

For more information go to savethemanatee.org/coolstuff and to adopt call 1-800-432-5646.

What a Character!™ Observant is ...



Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word **WATES** in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

V W S
A V
W V
E
S A