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## Debating Illegal-Immigration

### U.S. Supreme Court Rules On Controversial Arizona Border Control Law

BY JAY REEVES  
Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Monday's Supreme Court ruling overturning key provisions of Arizona's illegal-immigration law opens the door for courts to strike down similar measures in states that have tried to make it a crime for illegal immigrants to live and work in the U.S.

Supporters of immigration crackdowns, however, say the ruling also gives states a critical role in enforcing federal law by allowing local authorities to check the immigration status of those suspected of being in the country illegally.

"I'm encouraged at least by that glimmer of hope in the decision that we'll have the opportunity to inter-

act more closely with the federal government on undocumented residents when we encounter them," said South Carolina state Sen. Larry Martin, a Republican who sponsored his state's legislation. "Beyond that, I think our hands are tied by the federal law."

The high court struck down Arizona's requirement that all immigrants obtain or carry immigration registration papers; a provision making it a crime for an illegal immigrant to seek or hold a job; and a provision allowing police to arrest suspected illegal immigrants without warrants.

In the majority opinion written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the court ruled that those provisions conflicted with federal law. In other words, enforcing the nation's immigration laws is a task for the federal government, not state or local governments.

Laws passed in Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Indiana and Utah were modeled at least in part upon the one passed by Arizona in 2010. Now that the Supreme Court has weighed in on the issue, challenges to the laws in those states can now likely move forward.

Parts of those laws had been temporarily blocked. Federal judges in many cases had been waiting to issue a final ruling until the Supreme Court made its decision, believing the high court ruling would set important legal precedent.

Both supporters and detractors of the crackdowns describe Alabama's law as the toughest in the nation. It adopted much of the Arizona law and incorporated other provisions, including a requirement that public schools verify the citizenship status of new students.

Also, Alabama is the only state where courts allowed a provision to go into effect that requires officers to make a "reasonable attempt" during any traffic stop or other police encounter to determine the immi-

LAW | PAGE 3

## YSD Working To Meet State's Special Education Requirements

BY ANDREW ATWAL  
andrew.atwal@yankton.net

Recent special education numbers released for the Yankton School District (YSD) show the district exceeding expectations in some areas, but not quite measuring up to standards in other target areas.

The numbers show that, for the 2010-11 school year, YSD fell below the South Dakota statewide average for graduation rate for students on an individualized education program (IEP), as well as proficiency rates for reading and math for both grades kindergarten to 8th grade and grades 9 through 12.

The proficiency rate in reading for children in grades 9-12 was 6.25 percent, which is below the state average of 22.24 percent. The math proficiency rate for high school students was 18.75 percent, also below the South Dakota average, which was at 19.64 percent.

The numbers for the high school proficiency rates only include data from students in 11th grade since that is the only grade in high school that takes the Dakota Step test. The data comes from test scores on the Dakota Step test, administered to South Dakota students.

Other large school districts in eastern South Dakota that also fell below state target proficiency rates include Brookings, Aberdeen, Vermillion and Sioux Falls.

On the other hand, YSD performed better than the South Dakota average for students dropping out who are on an IEP, participation rates for students on IEP's and overall suspension or expulsion rate for students with disabilities.

The district also outperformed the state average on students with disabilities being in the regular classroom more than 80 percent of the day, being in the regular class less than 40 percent of the day and being in separate facilities altogether.

Students could be placed in special education and an IEP program because they are deaf or blind; have a cognitive, emotional, learning or orthopedic disability; autism; traumatic brain injury; or a developmental delay. Students with a speech or language impairment could also be placed in the special education program if they have a speech or language impairment, such as a stutter.

SPED | PAGE 3

## Compton Looks Forward To Work At HSC

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Ric Compton may have never been to the South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC) prior to applying for the administrator position there, but he had certainly heard of it.

Colleagues had told him that the Mickelson Center For The Neurosciences is a quality facility, and it convinced the Michigan native that he should investigate the job opening.

Ultimately, the South Dakota Department of Social Services announced in April that Compton, 48, would be the new administrator for HSC. He began his duties there June 11.

Compton replaces Cory Nelson, who left the position last July after being the administrator for 10 years.

"The staff has been wonderful and very helpful," Compton said. "I've been asking a lot of questions, meeting staff and learning the lay of the land. There is a lot of great history at the Human Services Center."

Previously, Compton, who holds a Master of Public Health Degree from the University of Michigan, served as director of Clinic Operations and Behavioral Health Services for Affinity Medical Group in Appleton, Wis.

Affinity Health System is a regional health network serving more than a dozen communities in northeast Wisconsin. It was formed in 1995 when Ministry Health Care and Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, two Catholic organizations, combined their resources.

Compton also worked in Nebraska for five years in the late 1990s, which included a two-year stint as the Medicaid director for the state.

"This is slightly different from what I was doing in Appleton," Compton said. "In the



Ric Compton began serving as the administrator of the South Dakota Human Services Center June 11. The Michigan native comes to Yankton via Appleton, Wis.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

COMPTON | PAGE 3

## S.D. Teens Score Poorly In Parts Of Youth Survey

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A government study of youth behavior finds that South Dakota teenagers are good about finding work and getting their flu shots, but they often bully others, forget to buckle up in the car and don't eat enough fruits and vegetables.

South Dakota finished last in those three areas in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey coordinated by the state Health Department and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"I am not surprised about the fruits and vegetables, but I thought we were nice to each other," South Dakota Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger told the *Argus Leader* newspaper. "I'm at a loss to interpret it."

Workers conducted phone interviews with more than 5,000 teens from 25 South Dakota high schools late last year and reported the results last week. The study found that South Dakota teens do well on college entrance exams, are among the best at finding summer jobs and are from families near the top in volunteering, charity work and getting their flu shots.

The survey also found that only 14 percent of South Dakota teens eat three pieces of fruit a day, compared with about 22 percent nationally. About 20 percent of South Dakota teens wear seat belts, three times worse than the national score. The 27 percent bullying rate compares with the national rate of 20 percent.

Christina Brennan, 18, a recent Sioux Falls graduate, said the

SURVEY | PAGE 2

## City Discusses Lack Of Septic Disposal Options

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

The Yankton City Commission didn't express any interest in allowing a septic dumping lagoon just west of the community, but the agenda item did spark discussion of a larger waste problem.

Bob Law requested consideration of an amendment to the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Zoning Ordinance that would allow him to create a lagoon approximately a half-mile west of West City Limits Road north of 23rd Street. Law was not present at the meeting to explain his intent for the lagoon, but it is believed by staff that he would use it as a location where septic haulers could put their waste.

Community Development Director Dave Mingo pointed out that a lagoon is not permitted in the current ordinance and recommended that such a use not be adopted. The land in question is planned as a residential area in

long-range development plans.

No commissioners expressed an interest in paving the way for a lagoon within a half-mile of the city, but the discussion soon turned to the limited options available to septic haulers, particularly when handling commercial septage.

"In the past, septic haulers who serviced the lake area and other rural occupancies have been able to haul and dump in communities' lagoon systems for their clean-out process," Mingo said.

However, the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources has begun to more strictly enforce Environmental Protection Agency rules that apply to septic disposal, he said. Options have now dried up.

"The state didn't enforce them strictly until recently," said Chuck Harper, who runs a local septic hauling service.



Interim City Manager Al Viereck (left) tells the Yankton City Commission Monday about ongoing problems with a surface water intake pipe in the Missouri River that has been overrun by a sandbar.

CITY | PAGE 3



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