

We are starting the fifth week of the 2010 Session. This week is known as cross-over week. Bills introduced in the Senate must go through a committee hearing and then, if found to have merit, on to the Senate floor. The same procedure is true for the House. So, bills I have sponsored during this session have until the end of the week to get through Senate Committee hearings and onto the floor to cross-over to the House of Representatives.

I have sponsored bills this year dealing with insurance equality, revisions to the Opportunity Scholarship and a bill that defines reasonable parameters wind companies need to make on land they hold easements on. All of my bills, as well as my committee assignments, can be tracked at [www.russelloolson.com](http://www.russelloolson.com)

Once cross-over week is over, the Appropriations Committee will have a better idea of which active bills have costs associated with them. Organizing these bills and prioritizing spending is necessary to assist the rest of us as we move forward with our goals and commitment of cutting government spending and balancing the budget without tapping into our limited reserves.

We have four weeks left in the 2010 Session. In the remaining weeks we'll debate the bills that have made it through their house of origin. I will keep you posted on the progress of the bills I am sponsoring, as well as the bills that I receive input from you to support or oppose.

Your District 8 Delegation will be available this Sunday, February 21st at 4:00 in Howard at the American Legion Hall. I hope you can come to give us advice and input as we move into the final stretch of the 2010 Session.

Please pray for the men and women of the 211th serving our state and country.

Again, I must tell you that it is an honor to serve as your State Senator. Please contact me at [Sen.russelloolson@state.sd.us](mailto:Sen.russelloolson@state.sd.us) with any advice or concerns.

Respectfully,

Russell Olson  
District 8 Senator