



Joint Committee on Appropriations
SENATOR DEB PETERS, CO-CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE JUSTIN CRONIN, CO-CHAIR

April 1, 2016

**Memo To: Executive Board of the SD Legislature
Director Jason Hancock, Legislative Research Council**

**Memo From: Senator Deb Peters, Co-Chair
Representative Justin Cronin, Co-Chair**

Subject: Joint Committee on Appropriations Meeting Room

As Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Appropriations (JCA), we would like to take an opportunity to report to the Executive Board on the progress of the new joint appropriations process. After the completion of the first session under the new joint process, the overall consensus of the JCA is that this process works well and is an improvement over the previous budget process. However, further improvements can be made, some of which we are working on for next session.

We would like to bring one of these improvements to the Executive Board's attention. As joint budget hearings and joint bill hearings began, the JCA quickly realized LCR1, as completely separated from LCR2, is not large enough to encompass the joint committee, staff, interns, proponents, opponents, and the public.

It is our understanding that the separation of LCR1 and LCR2 started before the discussion of the joint appropriations process and the adoption of the joint rules by the Legislature. On behalf of the JCA, we ask that the Executive Board allow for a reconfiguration of the space available to the Joint Committee in order to provide more room for JCA members and larger audiences. We understand that the JCA could lose a committee room. However, we strongly believe a reconfiguration will improve the new process, wherein the House and Senate Appropriations Committees primarily conduct meetings jointly.

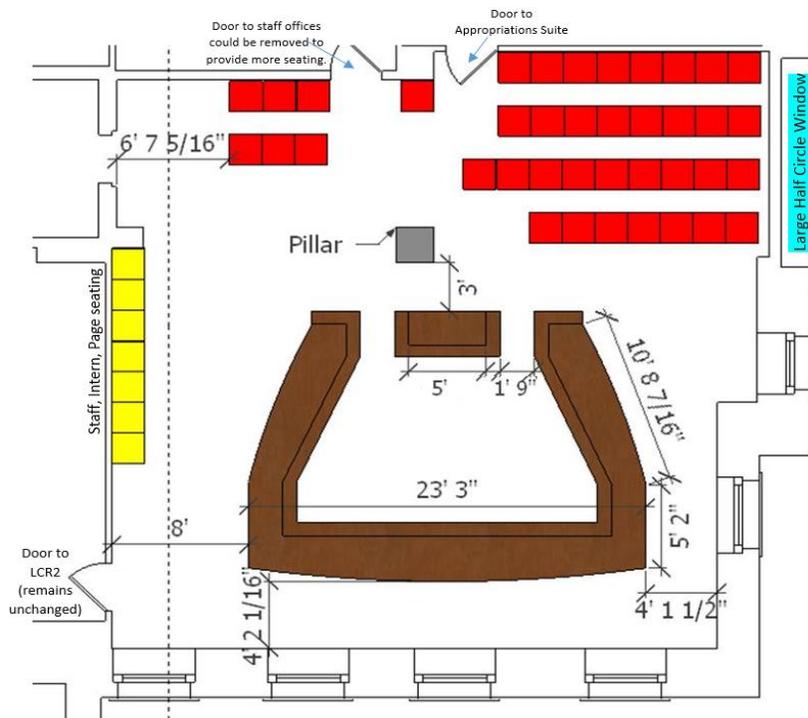
The JCA appreciates your cooperation and support in implementing the new joint appropriations process this past session. We hope you will consider our request and continue to support the JCA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joint Committee on Appropriation's Request Regarding Space Issues

Option 1: Convert Appropriations Suite lobby to Enlarge LCR1 (area with the large semi-circle window)

- The table would run along the South wall (with the four windows) (table must be along this wall due to the location of a supporting pillar).
- Audience would be nearest the semi-circle window and the doorways to the Appropriations suite and staff offices.
- New table would give attention to the fact that the JCA is a "working" committee that encourages discussions among all members, and not a committee that solely listens to testimony.
- Morning sun coming through half circle window could be a distraction ... quality window coverings would be a must.
- LCR 2 remains a functional committee room for a 9-member committee. Would still be available as overflow, but with additional seating in new LCR1, usage as overflow should be minimal.
- Increases staff/intern/page/audience seating by at least 17** (current 29 to 46). More could be added if door to LRC was removed. Staff would enter through Approp. suite entrance.
- Increases member-elbow-room** at the table.



Option 2: Move the wall currently between LCR1 and LCR2 back by about 10 ft.

- a. **Increases LCR1 audience/staff/intern/page seating by approximately 13 seats** (current 29 to 42).
- b. **Increases member-elbow-room** at the table.
- c. **LCR2 kitchen becomes part of LCR1** (right most edge of the kitchen becomes the back wall of LCR1)
- d. LCR2 becomes a smaller version of Room 499. **New LCR2 could fit a table that seats 8 with 8 audience seats** – total seating = 16
- e. Requires current LCR2 table be:
 - i. Retrofitted to become new LCR1 table (contacting builder to determine if this is feasible); or
 - ii. Reused elsewhere (possibly RM 423)

