

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2010

842R0128

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1001

Introduced by: Representatives Lucas, Cronin, Elliott, Juhnke, Krebs, Lange, McLaughlin, Putnam, Steele, Street, Vanneman, and Verchio and Senators Ahlers, Fryslie, Knudson, Merchant, and Vehle at the request of the Long-term Highway Needs and Department of Transportation Agency Review Committee

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging Congress to pass a balanced, well-funded, multi-
2 year federal highway program which provides connectivity and mobility to both rural and
3 urban areas.

4 WHEREAS, Congress has not yet enacted legislation providing for a multi-year
5 reauthorization of the federal highway program, hampering the ability of our state to plan and
6 deliver needed surface transportation improvements to the citizens of South Dakota; and

7 WHEREAS, South Dakota serves as a bridge for truck and personal traffic between other
8 states, advancing interstate commerce and mobility; and

9 WHEREAS, South Dakota's transportation system supports agricultural exports and serves
10 the nation's domestic energy industries like wind generation and ethanol production, located
11 largely in rural areas; and

12 WHEREAS, South Dakota's surface transportation system serves as a lifeline for remotely
13 located and economically challenged citizens, such as those living on tribal reservations; and

14 WHEREAS, South Dakota's transportation system enables people and business to traverse



1 the vast acres of sparsely populated land that is characteristic of the western United States; and

2 WHEREAS, South Dakota's transportation system provides access to the scenic wonders
3 of Badlands National Park and of Mt. Rushmore and provides a major connection to national
4 parks in other states; and

5 WHEREAS, South Dakota has a vast and extensive highway system that serves national as
6 well as state transportation needs, has very few citizens to finance the highway system's
7 maintenance and improvement, and has one of the highest per capita levels of effort in funding
8 transportation in the nation; and

9 WHEREAS, because of all the factors listed above, it is essential that South Dakota's
10 transportation system receive a proportion of the national funding equivalent to what it has
11 received in the SAFETEA-LU reauthorization of the federal highway program to keep the state
12 and the nation connected:

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
14 fifth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
15 Dakota Legislature strongly supports prompt enactment of a well-funded, multi-year federal
16 surface transportation program that includes a highway funding formula share that is at least as
17 favorable to South Dakota as the current formula in SAFETEA-LU; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority Leader
19 and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the President of the United States Senate, the
20 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate
21 Environment and Public Works Committee, the Chairman of the House Transportation and
22 Infrastructure Committee, and to each member of South Dakota's congressional delegation.