

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2011

174S0742

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1012

Introduced by: Representatives Kloucek, Bolin, Feinstein, Kirschman, Lucas, Moser, Russell, Schaefer, Schrempp, and Stricherz and Senators Nygaard, Bradford, Lederman, and Rampelberg

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging local safety measures relating to horses and other
2 animal entries in parades.

3 WHEREAS, in South Dakota and communities around the nation, parades have been a time-
4 honored method of marking special occasions and local traditions, serving as a source of family
5 entertainment and community pride; and

6 WHEREAS, horses and other animal entries in community parades always serve to enhance
7 the entertainment and educational value of the event, while allowing the owners to showcase
8 their animals as well as their riding, driving, and showmanship skills; and

9 WHEREAS, the use of horses, mules, and animal teams hitched to wagons or carriages in
10 parades has a long-standing history, but it cannot be forgotten that such animals, if not properly
11 trained and attended, can pose a safety hazard to parade participants and onlookers; and

12 WHEREAS, an accident at the Wagner South Dakota Labor Day parade in 2010 resulted
13 in the hospitalization of three people when two mules hauling a wagon in the parade were
14 spooked and veered into the crowd; and



1 WHEREAS, at a 2010 Fourth of July Parade in Bellevue, Iowa, one person was killed and
2 twenty-three were injured when horses pulling a carriage bolted and ran several blocks along
3 the parade route, striking numerous bystanders, many of them children sitting on the curb; and

4 WHEREAS, in addition to the tragedy in Bellevue, deaths related to parade animals have
5 been recorded in recent years in Tucson, Arizona; Cody, Wyoming; Clemmons, North Carolina;
6 Davie, Florida; and Pasadena, California, with injuries occurring in numerous other
7 communities as well; and

8 WHEREAS, injuries caused by parade animals can be prevented if officials and parade
9 participants follow simple and common-sense precautions in dealing with the animals, such as
10 the use of outriders or grooms with teams of horses, mules, or oxen, age limits for riders and
11 outriders, and other practices appropriate for the occasion:

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
13 sixth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
14 Dakota Legislature urges local officials, parade organizers and administrators, and parade
15 participants to take careful precautions relating to horses and other animal entries in community
16 parades to ensure that the animals are under control and do not endanger parade participants and
17 onlookers.