

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2009

652Q0748

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1008

Introduced by: Representatives Pitts, Blake, Boomgarden, Curd, Cutler, Deadrick, Dreyer, Faehn, Hamiel, Iron Cloud III, Lederman, Lucas, Moser, Noem, Nygaard, Olson (Betty), Rausch, Rave, Romkema, Rounds, Sly, Sorenson, Street, Thompson, and Vanderlinde and Senators Miles, Bartling, Dempster, Fryslie, Gant, Gillespie, Hansen (Tom), Hunhoff (Jean), Jerstad, Maher, Merchant, Nesselhuf, and Olson (Russell)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Expressing support for improved adolescent health and
2 wellness by recognizing the importance of an adolescent well physical to prevent chronic
3 diseases, help better identify and treat chronic diseases, and update immunizations.

4 WHEREAS, during the transition from childhood to adulthood, adolescents establish
5 unhealthy patterns of behavior and make poor lifestyle choices that affect both their current and
6 future health; and

7 WHEREAS, many adolescents may not have access to primary healthcare services. In South
8 Dakota over five thousand children between the ages of birth and seventeen have no insurance.
9 Of these children, 6.3 percent have not seen a physician in the last five years and 2.6 percent
10 have never seen a physician; and

11 WHEREAS, adolescence is a critical time to develop positive habits and skills that can lead
12 to healthy lifestyles and behavior over the adolescent's lifetime. The Institute of Medicine and
13 National Research Council conducted a study which found that one important factor in



1 designing an adolescent health service is the focus on prevention of disease. One of the study's
2 findings concluded that "prevention, early intervention and timely treatment improve health
3 status for adolescents, prepare them for healthy adulthood, and decrease the incidence of many
4 chronic diseases in adulthood"; and

5 WHEREAS, adolescents and young adults are adversely affected by serious health and
6 safety issues such as motor vehicle crashes, violence, and substance abuse. They also struggle
7 to adopt behaviors that could decrease their risk of developing chronic diseases in adulthood—
8 behaviors such as eating nutritiously, engaging in physical activity, and choosing not to use
9 tobacco. Environmental factors such as family, peer group, school, and community
10 characteristics also contribute to the challenges that adolescents face; and

11 WHEREAS, in the past few years, immunizations have been licensed to provide protection
12 for teens against infections and diseases such as meningococcal, tetanus-diphtheria-acellular
13 pertussis, influenza, and cervical cancer; and

14 WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), American
15 Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and the
16 American Medical Association (AMA) recommend a routine healthcare visit for adolescents
17 who are eleven or twelve years of age to receive recommended immunizations and other
18 evidence-based preventive healthcare services; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources
20 and Services Administration (HRSA) has developed, in conjunction with AAP, the Bright
21 Futures Initiative, which provides a set of guidelines including recommendations on
22 immunizations and routine health screenings for adolescents; and

23 WHEREAS, ACIP recommends the use of FDA-approved vaccines for
24 tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis, meningitis, influenza, and cervical cancer in adolescents;

1 and the CDC has launched a national campaign to raise awareness about adolescent health and
2 immunizations; and

3 WHEREAS, the Society for Adolescent Medicine has found that adolescent well visits are
4 one of the best tools of preventive care to ensure continued health from childhood to adulthood
5 and that children and adolescents who regularly visit a primary care physician are less likely to
6 have emergency room visits and preventable hospitalizations; and

7 WHEREAS, because adolescents remain under the guardianship of their parents, parental
8 awareness of the need for an adolescent well visit plays an enormous role in the incidence of
9 adolescent well visits:

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
11 fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
12 Dakota Legislature hereby expresses support for improved adolescent health and wellness by
13 recognizing the importance of an adolescent well physical to prevent chronic diseases, help
14 better identify and treat chronic diseases, and update immunizations; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the South Dakota
16 Secretary of Health and the South Dakota Secretary of Human Services to disseminate to state
17 and federal agencies and stakeholder organizations who can assist with the promotion of
18 adolescent well-health in South Dakota.