

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2009

480Q0450

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

Introduced by: Senators Knudson, Dempster, Hanson (Gary), Heidepriem, and Peterson and
Representatives Faehn, Hunhoff (Bernie), Noem, Nygaard, and Rave

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the Environmental Protection Agency to authorize
2 the use of higher blends of ethanol in non-flex fuel vehicles.

3 WHEREAS, South Dakota is a leading state in the production of ethanol and the use of
4 ethanol in our vehicles. However, we are approaching an ethanol blend "wall" that will curtail
5 ethanol production in this state, which is why the United States needs an immediate approval
6 of at least an E20 base blend in 2009; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has not yet approved the
8 use of ethanol blends in excess of ten percent in non-flex fuel vehicles, even though no federal
9 law prohibits the use of higher ethanol blends in such vehicles. Non-flex fuel vehicles can run
10 safely using ethanol blends of E20, E30, and E40; and

11 WHEREAS, the 2007 federal Energy Bill requires the increased use of ethanol, a
12 requirement that could be addressed through the use of higher ethanol blends, such as E20 and
13 E30, in non-flex fuel vehicles. If the base blend is not increased, there will be no market for
14 cellulosic ethanol; and

15 WHEREAS, numerous studies have shown favorable emissions data through the use of E20



1 and E30 in comparison with unleaded gasoline. The use of higher blends of ethanol will
2 significantly reduce emissions of nonmethane hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, and the use
3 of ethanol from corn-based dry mill ethanol plants will result in at least a fifty percent
4 greenhouse gas reduction in comparison with gasoline; and

5 WHEREAS, ethanol is the only liquid fuel alternative to foreign oil. Authorizing the use of
6 higher blends of ethanol in non-flex fuel vehicles will double or triple the use of American-
7 grown ethanol; and

8 WHEREAS, South Dakota will benefit significantly through the increased production of
9 ethanol and related job creation, as well as benefitting South Dakota drivers and fuel consumers
10 through the use of additional ethanol blends at lower cost and through greater fuel efficiency in
11 some vehicles using ethanol blends; and

12 WHEREAS, an increase to E20 will create thousands of green jobs, stimulate domestic
13 investment, and displace 600,000 barrels of foreign oil per day across America. An
14 authorization for E20 will create approximately \$1 billion of new economic activity in South
15 Dakota; for every dollar that goes into ethanol production the wealth of the citizens of the state
16 increases by ten cents. Such an increase would create over 5,000 new full-time and part-time
17 jobs, increase the tax base, provide greater consumer choice at the pump, and place South
18 Dakota on the leading edge of the next generation of cellulosic commercialization; and

19 WHEREAS, as this state and nation continue to strive for energy independence, increasing
20 the use of ethanol and other biofuels is one more approach toward self-sufficiency:

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
22 fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
23 Dakota Legislature strongly supports and urges the prompt authorization and implementation
24 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other appropriate federal agencies

1 of the use of higher levels of ethanol blends in non-flex fuel vehicles.