

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2014

516V0750

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Introduced by: Senators Jensen, Begalka, Curd, Krebs, Lederman, Maher, Monroe, and Omdahl and Representatives May, Anderson, Bolin, Campbell, Ecklund, Haggar (Don), Haggar (Jenna), Hoffman, Kaiser, Kopp, Latterell, Nelson, Olson (Betty), Qualm, Russell, Schaefer, Stalzer, Steele, and Wick

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Expressing concern relating to the Common Core State
2 Standards.

3 WHEREAS, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are a set of academic standards,
4 promoted and supported by two private membership organizations, the National Governor's
5 Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), as a method that
6 requires American students to conform to uniform, one size fits all, achievement goals to make
7 them more competitive in a global marketplace; and

8 WHEREAS, the NGA and the CCSSO received tens of millions of dollars from private third
9 parties to advocate for and develop the CCSS strategy and subsequently created the CCSS
10 through a process that was not subject to any freedom of information acts or other sunshine
11 laws; and

12 WHEREAS, even though federal law prohibits the federalizing of curriculum, the Obama
13 Administration accepted the CCSS plan and used 2009 Stimulus Bill money to reward the states
14 that were most committed to the president's CCSS agenda, but they failed to give states, their



1 legislatures, and their citizens time to evaluate the CCSS before having to commit to them; and

2 WHEREAS, the NGA and CCSSO in concert with the same corporations developing the
3 CCSS assessments have created new textbooks, digital media, and other teaching materials
4 aligned to the standards, which must be purchased and adopted by local school districts in order
5 that students may effectively compete on CCSS assessments; and

6 WHEREAS, the CCSS program includes federally funded testing and the collection and
7 sharing of massive amounts of personal student and teacher data; and

8 WHEREAS, the CCSS effectively removes educational choice and competition since all
9 schools and all districts must use Common Core assessments based on the Common Core
10 standards to allow all students to advance in the school system and to advance to higher
11 education pursuits:

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-Ninth Legislature
13 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South
14 Dakota Legislature does not believe in a one size fits all approach to education and supports
15 providing broad education choices to parents and children at the state and local level, which is
16 best based on a free market approach to education for students to achieve individual excellence;
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature recognizes the CCSS for what it is, an
19 inappropriate overreach to standardize and control the education of our children so they will
20 conform to a preconceived normal; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature rejects the collection of personal
22 student data for any noneducational purpose without the prior written consent of an adult student
23 or a child student's parent, and that it rejects the sharing of such personal data, without the prior
24 written consent of an adult student or a child student's parent, with any person or entity other

1 than schools or education agencies within the state; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature recognizes the need to repeal the

3 numerous federal regulations that interfere with state and local control of public schools.

4 Therefore, the Legislature rejects this CCSS plan which creates and fits the country with a

5 nationwide straitjacket on academic freedom and achievement.