

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting the United States Congress and certain federal agencies to require reflectors on interstate railroad cars.

WHEREAS, numerous accidents causing fatalities or serious injuries in South Dakota and throughout the nation have resulted from the inability of motor vehicle drivers to see moving or stationary railroad engines and cars at unlighted, rural railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, the use of reflective devices or materials on the sides of stationary or moving railroad engines and cars would greatly increase their nighttime visibility to motor vehicle drivers; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Dakota is powerless to require such reflectors since these railroad engines and cars are involved in interstate commerce and are not subject to regulation by state law; and

WHEREAS, this problem has existed for a number of years and has not been resolved despite previous requests of the Legislature to the United States Congress and the appropriate federal agencies to require reflectors on railroad engines and cars; and

WHEREAS, this problem needs immediate attention to save lives and prevent serious injuries:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Seventy-third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South Dakota Legislature request that the United States Congress, the United States Department of Transportation, and the Surface Transportation Board take immediate action to require that reflective devices or materials be used on all railroad engines and cars involved in interstate commerce.

Adopted by the Senate,
Concurred in by the House of Representatives,

February 5, 1998
February 17, 1998

Carole Hillard
President of the Senate

Patricia Adam
Secretary of the Senate

Rex Hagg
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House