

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2000

485D0628

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1005

Introduced by: Representatives Weber, Chicoine, Crisp, Engbrecht, Klaudt, Koehn, Kooistra, Lockner, Nachtigal, and Waltman and Senators Symens, Dennert, Drake, Duxbury, Kleven, Kloucek, and Lange

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the Clinton Administration to forbid packers from
2 feeding and owning livestock.

3 WHEREAS, in 1919 the Federal Trade Commission declared the Big Five Packers were in
4 the position to monopolize all the nation's food supply; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1920 the Big Five controlled roughly two-thirds of cattle slaughter; and

6 WHEREAS, the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 was enacted to strengthen existing
7 anti-trust laws and to prevent these or other companies from monopolizing the meat industry
8 again; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1983 the top four slaughterers had approximately thirty-six percent of the
10 market, in 1993 the top four slaughterers controlled approximately seventy percent and is now
11 over eighty percent; and

12 WHEREAS, three major corporations, Con Agra, Excel-Cargil, and IBP, control more than
13 eighty percent of the beef packing industry and together control major shares of the pork and
14 lamb slaughter industries:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-
16 fifth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Clinton

1 administration including Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, Assistant Secretary Mike Dunn,
2 and GIPSA Administrator Jim Baker, are urged to forbid packer feeding or owning of livestock
3 unless the packer is a cooperative where the producers have beneficial interest in livestock or the
4 livestock is purchased within fourteen days of slaughter.