

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1004

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the study of the problem of teenage in-vehicle drinking and drug use.

WHEREAS, teenagers with ready access to motor vehicles have become increasingly mobile, adding a new fluid dynamic to the manner in which teenagers use alcohol and illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drug abuse by teenagers has not significantly declined in the past several years and remains unacceptably high, possibly, for certain groups, increasing in incidence and shifting to riskier settings; and

WHEREAS, two thousand two hundred thirty-eight fifteen to twenty year olds were killed in alcohol-related traffic fatalities in 1999 across America; and

WHEREAS, the Aluminum Anonymous Project surveyed nine hundred miles of South Dakota roadside from Hot Springs to Rapid City to Pierre to Selby to North Dakota state line and from North Dakota state line to Aberdeen to Huron to Mitchell to Yankton to Vermillion and from Sioux Falls to Brookings in May 1998, and May 2000, for the discard rate of alcohol beverage containers, finding an average of six hundred fifty beer cans-beer bottles per mile of road annually, and followed up with thirty-five "Who's Doing the Tossing?" interviews of South Dakota grass roots' professionals working with teens and adults in alcohol and drug settings who collectively estimated that fifty-five percent of the discarded alcohol containers were coming from teenagers; and

WHEREAS, three state Legislatures, New Mexico, Montana, and Rhode Island, have passed similar resolutions in 2001, and, in several other states, legislators have either introduced or plan to introduce such resolutions for the 2002 session; and

WHEREAS, the January 2001, report of the National Center on Substance Abuse and Addiction (CASA), New York, NY, "Shoveling Up: Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets," states that only three percent of the \$129 million total that South Dakota spends annually on substance abuse problems goes for prevention and treatment, while the remaining ninety-seven percent goes for cleaning up the wreckage caused by substance abuse and addiction:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-seventh Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Department

of Health and Department of Human Services in cooperation with the Department of Transportation and Department of Commerce and Regulation and the Office of the Attorney General study the problem of teenage in-vehicle drinking and related drug use by assembling and determining what is known and not known about this behavior, its causes, prevalence, and incidence. The departments shall also study the problem by assessing the effectiveness of present policies, programs, and evaluation techniques and gauging the adequacy of interagency collaboration, including data sharing, program development, and cross-training, in meeting the challenges of this problem; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Human Services report to the Legislature, if necessary, with a recommended plan of action, encompassing policy and program, that would more comprehensively incorporate teenage in-vehicle drinking and related drug use into the scope of South Dakota's substance abuse and youth violence prevention strategies. The report should concentrate on ways of modifying and reforming present policies and programs rather than creating new programs.

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

January 17, 2002  
January 22, 2002

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Scott Eccarius  
Speaker of the House

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Karen Gerdes  
Chief Clerk of the House

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Carole Hillard  
President of the Senate

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Patricia Adam  
Secretary of the Senate