

# State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2002

913H0752

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1026

Introduced by: Representatives Kloucek, Bartling, Bradford, Burg, Davis, Elliott, Flowers, Gillespie, Glenski, Hanson (Gary), Hundstad, Lange, Nachtigal, Nesselhuf, Olson (Mel), Peterson (Jim), Sigdestad, and Van Norman and Senators Volesky, Hagen, and Koetzle

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging South Dakota to adopt a prescription savings  
2 program modeled after the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program and to combine with  
3 Iowa for negotiating influence to reduce prescription prices for Medicare-eligible individuals.

4 WHEREAS, the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program was developed to ease the  
5 financial burden of high prescription medication costs for Medicare-eligible individuals; and

6 WHEREAS, the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program is offered through the Iowa  
7 Prescription Drug Corporation, a not-for-profit organization, created through an alliance of  
8 consumers, pharmacists, physicians, and pharmaceutical companies; and

9 WHEREAS, the Prescription Drug Corporation selected Argus Health Systems as its  
10 pharmacy benefit manager and Argus has a reputation for excellent service and quality and has  
11 established relationships with pharmaceutical companies and pharmacists; and

12 WHEREAS, the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program requires Argus Health Systems  
13 to provide several services including negotiating lower prescription prices with pharmaceutical  
14 companies for its members; and



1       WHEREAS, the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program allows Medicare-eligible  
2 individuals to purchase membership for twenty dollars and in return receive discounted  
3 pharmaceutical drugs; and

4       WHEREAS, reducing the cost of prescription drugs for Medicare-eligible individuals is an  
5 important step in maintaining and improving the overall health of Medicare-eligible individuals;  
6 and

7       WHEREAS, reducing the overall costs of prescription drugs makes it easier for Medicare-  
8 eligible individuals to take the recommended dosages prescribed by physicians and follow the  
9 proper drug therapies that physicians recommend:

10       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-  
11 seventh Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that South  
12 Dakota examine the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program with the goal of implementing  
13 a program in the state modeled after the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program and  
14 combine with Iowa for negotiating influence to further reduce prescription drug prices.