

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2003

606I0799

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1019

Introduced by: Representatives Wick, Adelstein, Bartling, Begalka, Buckingham, Burg, Craddock, Cutler, Deadrick (Thomas), Dykstra, Frost, Garnos, Gassman, Glenski, Hackl, Hanson, Hargens, Haverly, Heineman, Hunhoff, Juhnke, Klaudt, Koistinen, LaRue, Lintz, Madsen, McCaulley, Murschel, Novstrup, O'Brien, Olson (Ryan), Pederson (Gordon), Peterson (Bill), Peterson (Jim), Putnam, Rave, Rhoden, Rounds, Sebert, Sigdestad, Solum, Teupel, Thompson, Van Gerpen, Weems, and Williamson and Senators Duenwald, Abdallah, Apa, Bogue, Brown, Diedrich (Larry), Duniphan, Earley, Greenfield, Jaspers, Kleven, Koetzle, Kooistra, Koskan, McCracken, Moore, Napoli, Olson (Ed), Reedy, Sutton (Duane), and Vitter

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging Congress to refrain from acquiring certain
2 additional land for Wind Cave National Park.

3 WHEREAS, the United States Congress is considering legislation to add more than 5,500
4 acres to Wind Cave National Park; and

5 WHEREAS, Wind Cave National Park, located in the southern Black Hills, is the location
6 of one of the longest and most complex cave systems in the United States and includes 28,000
7 acres of mixed-grass prairies and pine forests that provide habitat for bison, deer, elk, and many
8 other species; and

9 WHEREAS, the proposed addition would involve the purchase of similar adjacent, private
10 land; and

11 WHEREAS, residents of Custer and Fall River counties by a large margin do not support



1 the proposed purchase of additional property for Wind Cave National Park; and

2 WHEREAS, the proposed purchase would reduce property tax revenues to Custer County
3 and the Hot Springs School District, and federal payments in lieu of taxes would not be sufficient
4 to make up for the loss; and

5 WHEREAS, the National Park Service prohibits hunting in Wind Cave National Park and
6 would prohibit hunting in the additional area to be purchased, and the National Park Service does
7 not have a strong record in the area of wildlife management; and

8 WHEREAS, the purchase price for the proposed additional acres is higher than warranted
9 and would drive the price of land in the area beyond the reach of agricultural producers:

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-
11 eighth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
12 Dakota Legislature does not support the proposed purchase of additional land for an expansion
13 of Wind Cave National Park currently under consideration by the United States Congress. The
14 Legislature urges Congress to refrain from making the purchase and to allocate the resources
15 intended for the purchase to more appropriate purposes.