

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2003

780I0473

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

Introduced by: Senators Kloucek and Kooistra and Representative Begalka

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging South Dakota State University to not move to
2 National College Athletic Association Division I.

3 WHEREAS, South Dakota State University has established traditional rivalries with the
4 University of South Dakota and Augustana College and other regional universities and colleges
5 which will be abandoned by a move to Division I; and

6 WHEREAS, South Dakota State University has experienced success in Division II and has
7 several team championships and individual champions; and

8 WHEREAS, more South Dakota students may have an opportunity to participate in athletic
9 activities if South Dakota State University remains in Division II; and

10 WHEREAS, the transportation costs to games and events for the team and fans could
11 substantially increase along with ticket prices if South Dakota State University moves to Division
12 I; and

13 WHEREAS, although South Dakota State University has taken a position that it will not
14 request more state funds, raise student fees, or transfer other school funds, the money for
15 operating a Division I program must come from some means, and if alumni and other
16 contributors are unable or unwilling to sustain higher levels of funding, the demand or need to



1 raise money for added expenses may eventually become a burden for the students or state; and

2 WHEREAS, there is no Division I conference into which South Dakota State University is

3 a likely candidate or obvious fit to participate in; and

4 WHEREAS, there is a minimum four year reclassification period for schools moving into

5 Division I from postseason play and the wait could be longer for basketball, possibly resulting

6 in a diminished fan base and making it difficult to recruit players:

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Seventy-eighth Legislature

8 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the

9 Legislature urges South Dakota State University to place the students and academic standards

10 at a higher priority than athletic activities and remain in Division II.