

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2004

759J0735

HOUSE BILL NO. 1291

Introduced by: Representatives Van Norman, Adelstein, Bartling, Begalka, Bradford, Buckingham, Burg, Christensen, Elliott, Engels, Gassman, Gillespie, Hanson, Hargens, Hundstad, Kroger, Lange, McCoy, Nesselhuf, Olson (Mel), Peterson (Jim), Rounds, Sigdestad, and Thompson and Senators Moore, Bogue, Brown, Dennert, Ham-Burr, Kleven, Kloucek, Koskan, and Symens

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to create a commission on youth development strategies on
2 the reservations in South Dakota.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. The Legislature finds that state demographics show that youth under age eighteen
5 comprise nearly fifty percent of the population on some Indian reservations within South
6 Dakota, and the number of youth under age eighteen is rising. This growing youth population
7 on the Sioux Indian reservations lives within nine counties that have the lowest per capita
8 income in the state and there is a general lack of recreation centers and after school youth
9 programs. Assistance in studying the specific need for constructing recreation centers and
10 creating after school programs would encourage these students to be more strongly involved in
11 positive activities.

12 Section 2. There is created the South Dakota Reservation Youth Development Commission
13 within the Office of the Governor. The commission shall collaborate and suggest long term
14 youth development strategies designed to promote and encourage reservation youth to engage



1 in positive activities, including youth participation in planning and developing youth recreation
2 centers, mentoring programs to encourage academic advancement, and programs encouraging
3 positive values. The commission shall also recommend policy.

4 Section 3. The commission shall be appointed by the Governor and shall consist of five
5 members from the South Dakota Departments of Social Services, Health, Education, the South
6 Dakota Housing Authority, and the Office of Tribal Government Relations.

7 Section 4. The commission shall annually report its findings and recommendations to the
8 Governor and the Legislature by December first.