

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2007

480N0819

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Introduced by: Senators Lintz, Apa, Bartling, Dempster, Duenwald, Garnos, Gray, Greenfield, Hansen (Tom), Hanson (Gary), Hundstad, Katus, Kloucek, Maher, McCracken, McNenny, Napoli, Peterson (Jim), and Schmidt (Dennis) and Representatives DeVries, Bradford, Brunner, Burg, Dennert, Dreyer, Elliott, Gassman, Gillespie, Halverson, Hanks, Hargens, Howie, Hunt, Juhnke, Olson (Betty), Pederson (Gordon), Pitts, Rave, Rhoden, Sigdestad, Street, Tidemann, and Vanneman

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting the United States Forest Service to maintain
2 and improve soil and vegetative cover throughout the National Grasslands located in the
3 State of South Dakota by allowing the use of rodenticides for the management of the prairie
4 dog population prior to reduction of other currently existing multiple uses of the National
5 Grasslands.

6 WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service (Forest Service) issued a Notice of Intent to
7 Supplement the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Land and Resource Management
8 Plan (LRMP) for the Nebraska National Forest and the associated National Grasslands in
9 Nebraska and South Dakota; and

10 WHEREAS, the Notice of Intent to Supplement may lead to an amendment of the LRMP,
11 changing the management of the National Grasslands associated with the Nebraska National
12 Forest, including the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands and the Fort Pierre National Grasslands
13 in South Dakota, and the Oglala National Grasslands in Nebraska; and



1 WHEREAS, the LRMP does not currently provide for limiting the prairie dog population
2 and does not provide for the use of lethal control methods for managing the prairie dog
3 population for desired range conditions; and

4 WHEREAS, the Notice of Intent to Supplement states that the Forest Service finds it
5 desirable to have the option of managing the prairie dog population on the National Grasslands
6 to achieve desired range conditions by use of toxicants; and

7 WHEREAS, 36 C.F.R. 213.1(d) requires that the Forest Service "...in the administration of
8 the National Grasslands the resources shall be managed so as to maintain and improve soil and
9 vegetative cover, and to demonstrate sound and practical principles of land use for the areas in
10 which they are located...":

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-second Legislature
12 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South
13 Dakota Legislature respectfully requests that the United States Forest Service amend the Land
14 and Resource Management Plan to manage the National Grasslands of South Dakota in
15 compliance with 36 C.F.R. 213.1(d) by maintaining a minimum range condition on prairie dog
16 occupied acres that may not fall below a similarity index percentage/range condition of twenty
17 percent, as described in the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) South Dakota
18 State Technical Guide; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature respectfully requests that
20 the United States Forest Service amend the LRMP to allow for the use of rodenticides to
21 maintain the minimum range conditions described above; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature respectfully requests that
23 the United States Forest Service amend the LRMP to provide a defined and measurable
24 procedure for the effective management of the prairie dog population within the preceding

1 twelve-month period prior to any reduction of other currently existing multiple uses; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature respectfully requests that

3 the United States Forest Service amend the LRMP to provide that a disproportionate share of

4 prairie dog acres, defined as more than three percent of the aggregate total acreage of National

5 Grasslands in each county, may not be permitted to exist.