

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1001

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting the Department of Game, Fish and Parks to give Martha Smith of Fairburn, South Dakota, the hide of a mountain lion she recently killed.

WHEREAS, eighty-year-old Martha Smith, on January 3, 2008, found her dog in a standoff with a mountain lion outside her Fairburn home; and

WHEREAS, Martha went back inside and got her .22 caliber rifle and returned to dispatch the mountain lion; and

WHEREAS, Martha fired and missed and returned to the house to call 911 for assistance; and

WHEREAS, a Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer was not immediately available to come and take care of the lion, so she went back outside, took steady aim, and fired, killing the big cat; and

WHEREAS, Martha has a deer fence and an electric fence around her garden to keep out the deer and raccoon, and her loaded rifle is kept close at hand to deal with more serious problems; and

WHEREAS, Martha, when asked why she would keep a loaded gun in her house, responded by saying, "What good's a gun if it's not loaded?"; and

WHEREAS, Martha wisely advised after the incident, "Make sure what you are shooting at is what you want to kill," and "You must protect yourself and your property"; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of the pioneers who tamed this prairie wilderness, Martha Smith is someone who will rise up and do what must be done; and

WHEREAS, Martha said she would like to get the cat mounted and have it displayed at Fairburn's new museum:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Department of Game, Fish and Parks be hereby directed to give Martha Smith, of Fairburn, South Dakota, the hide of the mountain lion she shot to enjoy it for awhile and to eventually donate it to a local museum.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

January 25, 2008
January 30, 2008

Thomas J. Deadrick
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Dennis Dugaard
President of the Senate

Trudy Evenstad
Secretary of the Senate