

# State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-THIRD SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2008

822P0087

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Introduced by: Senators Two Bulls, Bartling, Dempster, Garnos, and Katus and  
Representatives Juhnke, Bradford, DeVries, Van Norman, and Weems at the  
request of the Committee on State-Tribal Relations

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging Congress to provide additional funding for tribal  
2 historic preservation offices.

3 WHEREAS, tribal historic preservation offices were established through federal legislation  
4 in 1996 and funded through the United States National Park Service; and

5 WHEREAS, tribal historic preservation offices were created primarily to allow tribes to take  
6 the role as cultural resource managers of their own tribal cultural properties. Through their  
7 historic preservation offices, tribes are able to negotiate with federal agencies in protecting and  
8 preserving their cultural resources; and

9 WHEREAS, tribal historic preservation offices deal with federal agencies on a  
10 government-to-government basis and extend into many states. If cultural sites are found, the  
11 office is notified. Tribal offices are involved in findings that result from federal projects or  
12 undertakings, and tribal historic preservation offices have an interest in cultural landscapes and  
13 sites wherever Native American people have had historic and cultural ties; and

14 WHEREAS, one issue that frequently involves tribal historic preservation offices is the



1 disposition and repatriation of human remains and cultural artifacts associated with the tribe;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, both state and tribal historic preservation offices could benefit from closer  
4 coordination and communication; and

5 WHEREAS, tribal historic preservation offices have not received adequate federal funding.  
6 In addition, there have been disparities in funding for state and tribal historic preservation  
7 offices, as tribal offices assumed some of the workload for state offices, but have not received  
8 sufficient levels of federal funding:

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-Third Legislature  
10 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South  
11 Dakota Legislature recognizes and appreciates the role of tribal historic preservation offices in  
12 South Dakota and in other states and urges the federal government to provide adequate funding  
13 for them. The Legislature supports federal funding of tribal historic preservation offices at the  
14 same level as state historic preservation offices, as tribal historic preservation offices have been  
15 charged with the same obligations and responsibilities under the law as state historic  
16 preservation offices.