

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2012

916T0610

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1010

Introduced by: Representatives Hansen (Jon), Cronin, Dennert, Fargen, Feickert, Feinstein, Gosch, Hunhoff (Bernie), Iron Cloud III, Killer, Kirschman, Lucas, Moser, Rausch, Schrempp, Sigdestad, Street, Tornow, Wick, and Willadsen and Senators Frerichs, Hansen (Tom), Haverly, Hundstad, Krebs, Lederman, Maher, Nelson (Tom), Novstrup (Al), Peters, Rampelberg, Rhoden, and Sutton

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging Congress to adopt a proposed constitutional
2 amendment limiting federal legislation to a single subject.

3 WHEREAS, the United States of America, in two hundred thirty-five years since her
4 founding, and two hundred twenty-three years since the ratification of her Constitution, has
5 become a great nation; and

6 WHEREAS, to reach agreement amidst diversity, we must discover those ideas which unite
7 us; and

8 WHEREAS, to find what unites us, we cannot be distracted by what divides us and must be
9 permitted to agree on some things, while respectfully disagreeing on others; and

10 WHEREAS, if we must agree on everything to do anything, we will achieve nothing; and

11 WHEREAS, federal legislation has become increasingly complex, lengthy, and filled with
12 such disparate items, that the meaning and effects of proposed laws are difficult to discern,
13 detect, and discuss; and



1 WHEREAS, forty-three states have provisions in their constitutions that limit the scope of
2 legislation to one subject per bill; and

3 WHEREAS, while one-subject provisions have not resolved all differences and are not
4 perfect, they have made legislation more easily understood and more transparent; and

5 WHEREAS, these one-subject provisions have focused discussion and allowed legislators
6 from across the United States of America to unite when they agree, without being divided by
7 their differences; and

8 WHEREAS, while no one amendment or action will completely unite us or overcome all
9 our nation's challenges, all great achievements are begun with one step for America; and

10 WHEREAS, our founders understood that no one thing solves everything, and so strove not
11 for a perfect union but a more perfect union:

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
13 seventh Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the
14 Congress of the United States of America be urged to adopt a proposed constitutional
15 amendment stating: "No law shall embrace more than one subject, which shall be expressed in
16 its title."