



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Concurrent Resolution 6010

Introduced by: **Representative Healy**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting the creation of an early education**
2 **advisory council.**

3 WHEREAS, society benefits from a well-educated citizenry; and

4 WHEREAS, research demonstrates that children who participate in high-quality early
5 education programs have better higher-order thinking and attention skills, as well as better
6 executive functions, such as self-control, decision-making skill and the ability to connect
7 social, emotional, and cognitive processes; and

8 WHEREAS, well-regarded studies have shown that high-quality early education programs
9 both increase the likelihood that children will gain higher levels of cognitive and social skills
10 and become successful students and productive citizens and reduce the chances that they will
11 drop out of high school, become dependent on welfare, or be incarcerated; and

12 WHEREAS, studies indicate that children exposed to high-quality early education programs
13 have better oral literacy, have better reading, writing, and mathematics abilities, require
14 fewer remedial services, experience less grade retention, and have a higher likelihood of
15 economic productivity and social stability in adulthood; and

16 WHEREAS, in order to address the needs of all children so they can meet high standards
17 and in order to close the objectionably large achievement gap between advantaged and
18 disadvantaged students, this state must focus its attention on issues related to early education
19 and school readiness; and

20 WHEREAS, high quality childcare services remain unaffordable for most working families
21 in this state; and

1 WHEREAS, the lack of access to high-quality early education programs is a major problem
2 that affects nearly every working family in this state, whether lower or middle class, and is
3 likely to become more acute as the numbers of working mothers and fathers increase:

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fifth
5 Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature
6 supports the creation of an Early Education Advisory Council to ensure the maximization of
7 educational opportunities for all students across this state.