

# State of South Dakota

## EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2011

587S0335

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

Introduced by: Senator Lederman and Representative Miller

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting and encouraging efforts by the South Dakota  
2 Department of Corrections to reduce recidivism rates among juvenile offenders and to  
3 promote community-based services for juvenile offenders in lieu of residential placement.

4 WHEREAS, from 2007 to 2008 in South Dakota the rate of recidivism for juveniles, or the  
5 percentage of youth who had successfully completed a residential program in the previous  
6 twelve months and were subsequently returned to a residential program, was forty-six percent;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, removing juveniles from their families, homes, schools, and communities and  
9 placing them in residential programs is not always the most appropriate or effective criminal  
10 justice response, and in fact, removing such youth from a stable environment can be  
11 counterproductive; and

12 WHEREAS, South Dakota can learn from the example set in the state of Iowa, where thirty-  
13 four percent fewer youth have been placed in detention statewide since 2007 and the use of  
14 community-based alternatives to incarceration has increased through the state's effort to reform  
15 juvenile detention practices; and



1       WHEREAS, striking the right balance between the use of community-based treatments and  
2   incarceration is an important goal that must be met in South Dakota for the benefit of our state's  
3   youth:

4       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-sixth Legislature of  
5   the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislature  
6   supports and encourages the efforts of the South Dakota Department of Corrections to reduce  
7   recidivism rates among juvenile offenders and to enhance the use of community-based  
8   alternatives to incarceration for juveniles.