

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

NINETY-SEVENTH SESSION

FIRST DAY

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Senate Chamber, Pierre
Tuesday, January 11, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the eleventh day of January, A.D., two thousand twenty two, at the hour of twelve o'clock meridian, being the date and hour fixed by the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, for the convening of the Legislature, the Ninety-seventh regular session of the Senate of the State of South Dakota was called to order by Lieutenant Governor Larry Rhoden in the Senate Chamber in the Capitol, in the City of Pierre, the seat of our government.

The following prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Craig Wexler, Pierre/Ft. Pierre Ministerial Association:

We begin with an old prayer of the Church, a prayer long before my time—"Most gracious God, we humbly beseech you for our nation. Fill it with all Truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where anything is amiss, reform it; where it is right strengthen and confirm it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided and rent asunder, heal the breaches thereof"...We desperately need you in this time of chaos, disparity, division, and shortsightedness. Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel—God with us...give us the peace that surpasses all understanding—as we enter into time together this session—together these next couple months. Take charge of important matters at hand. Give us patience and discernment—grant us humility and listening ears—help us to listen more and speak less, for the care, respect, and honor of each other's calling into these elected positions. In all things, we pray to you and seek guidance, through Jesus Christ our Savior, and Lord. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States was led by President Larry Rhoden.

1 Unless there is an objection, the Secretary of State's certification of members of the Senate for
2 the Ninety-seventh Legislative Session will be placed in the record without reading.

3 Hearing no objections, the certification is submitted.

4 I, STEVE BARNETT, Secretary of State of the state of South Dakota, do hereby certify that the
5 following members, having been duly elected to the Senate at the general election held on November
6 3, 2020, and were certified on November 10, 2020. I do hereby certify that these are the members
7 of the South Dakota Senate for the 2022 Legislative Session.

8 District No. 1 Brown, Day, Marshall and Roberts Counties
9 Michael H. Rohl, Aberdeen

10 District No. 2 Brown, Clark, Hamlin and Spink Counties
11 Brock L. Greenfield, Clark

12 District No. 3 Brown County
13 Al Novstrup, Aberdeen

14 District No. 4 Brookings, Codington, Deuel, and Grant Counties
15 John Wiik, Big Stone City

16 District No. 5 Codington County
17 Lee Schoenbeck, Watertown

18 District No. 6 Lincoln County
19 Herman Otten, Tea

20 District No. 7 Brookings County
21 V.J. Smith, Brookings

22 District No. 8 Lake, Miner, Moody and Sanborn Counties
23 Casey Crabtree, Madison

24 District No. 9 Minnehaha County
25 Wayne Steinhauer, Hartford

26 District No. 10 Minnehaha County
27 Maggie Sutton, Sioux Falls

28 District No. 11 Minnehaha County
29 Jim Stalzer, Sioux Falls

30 District No. 12 Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties
31 Blake Curd, Sioux Falls

32 District No. 13 Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties
33 Jack Kolbeck, Sioux Falls

34 District No. 14 Minnehaha County
35 Larry Zikmund, Sioux Falls

36 District No. 15 Minnehaha County
37 Reynold F. Nesiba, Sioux Falls

38 District No. 16 Lincoln and Union Counties
39 Jim Bolin, Canton

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| 1 | District No. 17 | Clay and Turner Counties |
| 2 | | Arthur L. Rusch, Vermillion |
| 3 | District No. 18 | Yankton County |
| 4 | | Jean Hunhoff, Yankton |
| 5 | District No. 19 | Bon Homme, Douglas, Hanson, Hutchinson and McCook Counties |
| 6 | | Kyle Schoenfish, Scotland |
| 7 | District No. 20 | Aurora, Davison and Jerauld Counties |
| 8 | | Joshua Klumb, Mount Vernon |
| 9 | District No. 21 | Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Gregory and Tripp Counties |
| 10 | | Erin Tobin, Winner |
| 11 | District No. 22 | Beadle and Kingsbury Counties |
| 12 | | David Wheeler, Huron |
| 13 | District No. 23 | Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, McPherson, Potter, Spink and Walworth |
| 14 | | Counties |
| 15 | | Bryan J. Breitling, Miller |
| 16 | District No. 24 | Hughes, Hyde, Stanley and Sully Counties |
| 17 | | Mary Duvall |
| 18 | District No. 25 | Minnehaha County |
| 19 | | Marsha Symens, Dell Rapids |
| 20 | District No. 26 | Brule, Buffalo, Jones, Lyman, Mellette and Todd Counties |
| 21 | | Troy E. Heinert, Mission |
| 22 | District No. 27 | Bennett, Haakon, Jackson, Oglala Lakota and Pennington Counties |
| 23 | | Red Dawn Foster, Pine Ridge |
| 24 | District No. 28 | Butte, Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins and Ziebach Counties |
| 25 | | Ryan M. Maher, Isabel |
| 26 | District No. 29 | Butte, Meade and Pennington Counties |
| 27 | | Gary L. Cammack, Union Center |
| 28 | District No. 30 | Custer, Fall River and Pennington Counties |
| 29 | | Julie Frye-Mueller, Rapid City |
| 30 | District No. 31 | Lawrence County |
| 31 | | Timothy R. Johns, Lead |
| 32 | District No. 32 | Pennington County |
| 33 | | Helene Duhamel, Rapid City |
| 34 | District No. 33 | Meade and Pennington Counties |
| 35 | | David Johnson, Rapid City |
| 36 | District No. 34 | Pennington County |
| 37 | | Michael Diedrich, Rapid City |
| 38 | District No. 35 | Pennington County |
| 39 | | Jessica Castleberry, Rapid City |

1 IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the state
2 of South Dakota, this 11th day of January 2022.

3 Steve Barnett
4 Secretary of State

5 When the roll was called, all members were present.

6 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

7 MR. PRESIDENT:

8 The Committee on Legislative Procedure respectfully reports that the Governor has been
9 notified that the Legislature is duly organized and ready to meet in Joint Session to receive any
10 communications she may desire to transmit and that the Governor is ready to appear before the
11 Joint Session to deliver her message.

12 Also, MR. PRESIDENT:

13 The Committee on Legislative Procedure respectfully reports that arrangements have been
14 made for a Joint Session of the Senate and the House of Representatives to receive the message of
15 the Governor. And:

16 That the Senate and the House will convene in Joint Session in the Chamber of the House of
17 Representatives at 1:00 p.m., January 11, 2022.

18 That the President of the Senate preside over the Joint Session and that the Secretary of the
19 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives act as clerks of the Joint Session.

20 That the Justices of the Supreme Court and the elective and appointed officials of the state
21 government be invited to attend the Joint Session.

22 That when the message of the Governor has been received, the Joint Session be dissolved.

23 That the message of the Governor be printed in the Senate Journal.

24 Also, MR. PRESIDENT:

25 The Committee on Legislative Procedure respectfully reports that arrangements have been
26 made for a Joint Session of the Senate and the House of Representatives to receive a message of
27 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. And:

28 That the Senate and the House convene in Joint Session in the Chamber of the House of
29 Representatives at 1:30 p.m., January 12, 2022.

30 That the President of the Senate preside over the Joint Session and that the Secretary of the
31 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives act as clerks of the Joint Session.

32 That the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Governor and elective and appointed officials of
33 the state government be invited to attend the Joint Session.

34 That when the message of the Chief Justice has been received, the Joint Session be dissolved.

35 That the message of the Chief Justice be printed in the Senate Journal.

1 Also, MR. PRESIDENT:

2 The Committee on Legislative Procedure respectfully reports that arrangements have been
3 made for a Joint Session of the Senate and the House of Representatives to receive a message of
4 the State of the Tribes from a Tribal Chairman. And:

5 That the Senate and the House convene in Joint Session in the Chamber of the House of
6 Representatives at 1:30 p.m., January 13, 2022.

7 That the President of the Senate preside over the Joint Session and that the Secretary of the
8 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives act as clerks of the Joint Session.

9 That the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Governor and elective and appointed officials of
10 the state government be invited to attend the Joint Session.

11 That when the message of the Tribal Chairman has been received, the Joint Session be
12 dissolved.

13 That the message of the Tribal Chairman be printed in the Senate Journal.

14 **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

15 Sen. Cammack moved that the Senate do now proceed with the organization of the Senate.

16 Which motion prevailed.

17 Senator Lee Schoenbeck was elected President Pro Tempore for the 2021-22 legislative term
18 on January 12, 2021.

19 Sen. Cammack moved that Kay Johnson be elected Secretary of the Senate for the Ninety-
20 seventh Legislative Session.

21 The question being on Sen. Cammack's motion that Kay Johnson be elected Secretary of the
22 Senate for the Ninety-seventh Legislative Session.

23 And the roll being called:

24 Yeas 31, Nays 0, Excused 4, Absent 0

25 Yeas: Bolin, Cammack, Castleberry, Crabtree, Curd, Diedrich, Duhamel, Duvall, Foster, Frye-
26 Mueller, Brock Greenfield, Johns, David Johnson, Klumb, Kolbeck, Nesiba, Novstrup, Herman Otten,
27 Rohl, Rusch, Schoenbeck, Schoenfish, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, Steinhauer, Sutton, Symens, Tobin,
28 Wheeler, Wiik, and Zikmund

29 Excused: Breitling, Heinert, Hunhoff, and Maher

30 So the motion having received an affirmative vote of a majority of the members-elect, the
31 President declared the motion carried.

32 The oath of office was administered by the Honorable Steven R. Jensen, Chief Justice of the
33 Supreme Court of the State of South Dakota, to Secretary of the Senate Kay Johnson.

34 Which was subscribed to and placed on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

1 Unless there is an objection, the reading of the appointments of the employees of the Senate
2 for the Ninety-seventh Legislative Session will be waived.

3 Hearing no objection, the reading was waived.

4 The President announced the appointment of the following named persons as employees of
5 the Senate for the Ninety-Seventh Legislative Session:

6 Assistant to the Secretary – Mike Oakland

7 Assistant to the Secretary – Marcy Fifield

8 Chief Chaplain – Craig Wexler

9 Secretary to the Minority Party – Kahden Mooney

10 Appropriations Secretary – Gerry Baucom

11 Committee Secretaries – Amber Hodgkin, Mary Kirk, Peggy Laurenz, Doug Mortenson,
12 Lorna Shell

13 Sergeant at Arms – Dave Bonde

14 Assistant Sergeant at Arms – Gary Hoscheid

15 Pages (1st term) – Olivia Breen, Gillian Brennan, Kasey Broers, Madison Decker, Joleh Raquel
16 McCullough, Emily Olsen, Savannah Tunheim, Maya Vadenbark

17 Pages (2nd term) – Abbey Allen, Masey Chapin, Benjamin Daggett, Ethan Gladue, Clair Hall,
18 Victoria Larson, Gwyn Nickels, Jack Sandvig, Ellie Simpson, Dillon Unzelman,
19 Madisen Vetter

20 Pages (3rd term) – Keegan Baker, Ainsley Brink, Lucy Farley, Bailey Feistner, Jack Freeburg,
21 Will Hurd, Luta Keegan, Lany LaPlante, Kinzee Peterson, Breanna Roth, Elle Westra,
22 Taylor Wetz

23 Pages (4th term) – Sequoia Altamirano, Grace Barnett, Kathryn Doom, Kieran Duffy, Maxwell
24 Lightfield, Katherine Mickelson, Logan Mueller, Jillian Navratil, Dorian Sikkink, Kaira
25 Stomprud, Michael Wagenaar, Zachary Winter

26 Pages (5th term) – Iris Anderson, Dustin Hermansen, Morgan Jager, Chad Kolden, Aiden
27 Petersen, Ella Simmons

28 Legislative Interns – Cage Consoer, Elizabeth Duffy, Maggie Erickson, Noah Greble, Ashley
29 Gustafson, Emily Meier, Sky Nockels, Shelby Ruland, Seth Warren

30 The oath of office was administered by the Honorable Steven R. Jensen, Chief Justice of the
31 Supreme Court of the State of South Dakota, to the following named employees:

32 Assistant to the Secretary – Mike Oakland

33 Assistant to the Secretary – Marcy Fifield

34 Chief Chaplain – Craig Wexler

35 Secretary to the Minority Party – Kahden Mooney

36 Appropriations Secretary – Gerry Baucom

1 Committee Secretaries – Amber Hodgins, Mary Kirk, Peggy Laurenz, Doug Mortenson,
2 Lorna Shell

3 Sergeant at Arms – Dave Bonde

4 Assistant Sergeant at Arms – Gary Hoscheid

5 Legislative Interns – Elizabeth Duffy, Maggie Erickson, Noah Greble, Emily Meier, Shelby
6 Ruland, Seth Warren

7 Which was subscribed to and placed on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

8 Sen. Cammack moved that the permanent joint rules of the Ninety-sixth Legislative Session
9 with the recommended changes to those joint rules for the Ninety-seventh Legislative Session as
10 adopted in March, 2021, be adopted as the temporary joint rules for the Ninety-seventh Legislative
11 Session.

12 The question being on Sen. Cammack's motion that the permanent joint rules of the Ninety-
13 sixth Legislative Session with the recommended changes to those joint rules for the Ninety-seventh
14 Legislative Session as adopted in March, 2021, be adopted as the temporary joint rules for the
15 Ninety-seventh Legislative Session.

16 And the roll being called:

17 Yeas 31, Nays 0, Excused 4, Absent 0

18 Yeas: Bolin, Cammack, Castleberry, Crabtree, Curd, Diedrich, Duhamel, Duvall, Foster, Frye-
19 Mueller, Brock Greenfield, Johns, David Johnson, Klumb, Kolbeck, Nesiba, Novstrup, Herman Otten,
20 Rohl, Rusch, Schoenbeck, Schoenfish, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, Steinhauer, Sutton, Symens, Tobin,
21 Wheeler, Wiik, and Zikmund

22 Excused: Breitling, Heinert, Hunhoff, and Maher

23 So the motion having received an affirmative vote of a majority of the members-elect, the
24 President declared the motion carried.

25 Sen. Cammack moved that the permanent rules of the Senate for the Ninety-sixth Legislative
26 Session be adopted as the temporary Senate rules for the Ninety-seventh Legislative Session,
27 excluding S2-6 and S4-4.

28 The question being on Sen. Cammack's motion that the permanent rules of the Senate for the
29 Ninety-sixth Legislative Session be adopted as the temporary Senate rules for the Ninety-seventh
30 Legislative Session, excluding S2-6 and S4-4.

31 And the roll being called:

32 Yeas 30, Nays 2, Excused 3, Absent 0

33 Yeas: Bolin, Cammack, Castleberry, Crabtree, Curd, Diedrich, Duhamel, Duvall, Frye-Mueller,
34 Brock Greenfield, Johns, David Johnson, Klumb, Kolbeck, Maher, Novstrup, Herman Otten, Rohl,
35 Rusch, Schoenbeck, Schoenfish, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, Steinhauer, Sutton, Symens, Tobin, Wheeler,
36 Wiik, and Zikmund

37 Nays: Foster and Nesiba

38 Excused: Breitling, Heinert, and Hunhoff

1 So the motion having received an affirmative vote of a majority of the members-elect, the
2 President declared the motion carried.

3 Sen. Cammack moved that a committee of four on the part of the Senate be appointed to meet
4 with a committee of four on the part of the House for the purpose of arranging a memorial
5 recognition of deceased former members of the Senate and House.

6 Which motion prevailed and the President announced as such committee Sens. Cammack,
7 Greenfield, Schoenbeck, and Heinert.

8 Sen. Cammack moved that when we adjourn today, we adjourn to convene at 1:00 p.m.
9 Wednesday, January 12, 2022, the 2nd legislative day.

10 Which motion prevailed.

11 Unless there is an objection, we will waive the reading of the President Pro Tem's Appointments
12 of Standing Committees and place them in the record.

13 Hearing no objections, the reading was waived.

14 The President announced the appointment of the following standing committees:

15 **** Denotes Chair** *** Denotes Vice-Chair**

16 **Agriculture and Natural Resources (7)**

17 ****Klumb, * Smith (VJ)**, Cammack, Duvall, Frye-Mueller, Otten (Herman), Heinert

18 **Appropriations (9)**

19 ****Hunhoff, *Breitling**, Greenfield (Brock), Johnson (David), Kolbeck, Maher, Sutton, Wiik,
20 Nesiba

21 **Commerce and Energy (9)**

22 ****Crabtree, *Wheeler**, Novstrup, Schoenbeck, Stalzer, Steinhauer, Tobin, Zikmund, Foster

23 **Education (7)**

24 ****Curd, *Schoenfish**, Bolin, Smith (V.J.), Steinhauer, Tobin, Heinert

25 **Government Operations and Audit (5)**

26 ****Schoenfish, *Wheeler**, Hunhoff, Steinhauer, Nesiba

27 **Health and Human Services (7)**

28 ****Steinhauer, *Tobin**, Bolin, Curd, Rusch, Smith (V.J.), Foster

29 **Judiciary (7)**

30 ****Rusch, *Duhamel**, Diedrich, Johns, Rohl, Stalzer, Wheeler

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Legislative Procedure (7)

****Schoenbeck, *Cammack,** Crabtree, Diedrich, Duhamel, Schoenfish, Nesiba

Local Government (7)

****Otten (Herman), *Diedrich,** Bolin, Cammack, Frye-Mueller, Klumb, Foster

Military and Veterans Affairs (5)

****Johnson (David), *Castleberry,** Smith (V.J.), Stalzer, Zikmund

Retirement Laws (5)

****Bolin, *Zikmund,** Duvall, Heinert, Nesiba

State Affairs (9)

****Cammack, *Diedrich,** Crabtree, Duhamel, Duvall, Rohl, Schoenbeck, Schoenfish, Heinert

Taxation (7)

****Johns, *Symens,** Castleberry, Klumb, Novstrup, Otten (Herman), Stalzer

Transportation (7)

****Duvall, *Castleberry,** Crabtree, Schoenfish, Symens, Zikmund, Heinert

FIRST READING OF SENATE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SB 35: FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to increase penalties for actions related to grain transactions.

Introduced by: The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at the request of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

SB 38: FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to prohibit a grain broker from engaging in certain transactions or activities and to provide a penalty therefor.

Introduced by: The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at the request of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

SB 39: FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to reduce the period for filing claims upon the revocation of a grain buyer license.

Introduced by: The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at the request of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

SB 52: FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for the replacement of the Richmond Lake spillway, for the general maintenance and repair of other state-owned dams, and to declare an emergency.

Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Office of School and Public Lands

1 **SB 64:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make appropriations from the water and environment
2 fund and its revolving fund subfunds for various water and environmental purposes and to declare
3 an emergency.

4 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Office of the Governor

5 **SB 67:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation to the Department of Game,
6 Fish and Parks to improve and repair infrastructure around Lake Alvin and Newell Lake and to declare
7 an emergency.

8 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of Game,
9 Fish and Parks

10 **SB 73:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for the use of artificial light and night-vision
11 equipment while hunting coyotes and other predators.

12 Introduced by: **Senator** Rohl

13 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

14 **SB 3:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for the use and regulated sale of marijuana.

15 Introduced by: **Senators** Rohl, Breitling, Heinert, Rusch, V. J. Smith, and Wheeler and
16 **Representatives** Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Duba, Ernie Otten, Rehfeldt, and Willadsen at
17 the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

18 **SB 6:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions related to prohibited conduct by
19 schools and landlords related to medical cannabis.

20 Introduced by: **Senators** Stalzer, Breitling, and Duhamel and **Representatives** Finck, Bartels,
21 Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Perry, and Wiese at the request of the
22 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

23 **SB 36:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require financial security for the decommissioning of
24 solar facilities.

25 Introduced by: The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the South Dakota
26 Public Utilities Commission

27 **SB 40:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish safety standards regarding biogas gathering
28 lines.

29 Introduced by: The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the South Dakota
30 Public Utilities Commission

31 **SB 45:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise notice and record keeping requirements of
32 real estate brokerages.

33 Introduced by: The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the Department of
34 Labor and Regulation

35 **SB 47:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding money
36 transmission.

37 Introduced by: The Committee on Commerce and Energy at the request of the Department of
38 Labor and Regulation

1 **SB 53:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation to increase workforce housing
2 and to declare an emergency.

3 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Governor's Office of
4 Economic Development

5 **SB 55:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to appropriate funds for the expansion of broadband
6 infrastructure and to declare an emergency.

7 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Governor's Office of
8 Economic Development

9 **SB 65:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to delineate uses for the South Dakota housing
10 opportunity fund.

11 Introduced by: **Senator** Wheeler

12 **SB 70:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to modify the amount of time to report an injury for
13 workers' compensation.

14 Introduced by: **Senator** Nesiba

15 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Energy.

16 **SB 31:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation to the Department of Labor
17 and Regulation for the modernization of the reemployment assistance enterprise system and to
18 declare an emergency.

19 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of Labor
20 and Regulation

21 **SB 32:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Department of Corrections to purchase
22 certain real property, construct a community work center for offenders committed to the Department
23 of Corrections, to make an appropriation therefor, transfer funds from the budget reserve fund, and
24 to declare an emergency.

25 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of
26 Corrections

27 **SB 33:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Department of Corrections to make
28 healthcare improvements at the South Dakota Women's Prison, to make an appropriation therefor,
29 and to declare an emergency.

30 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of
31 Corrections

32 **SB 34:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for the enhancement and
33 improvement of state radio infrastructure and to declare an emergency.

34 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Bureau of Information
35 and Telecommunications

36 **SB 49:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Department of the Military to construct
37 a cold storage building located in Rapid City, South Dakota, to make an appropriation therefor, and
38 to declare an emergency.

39 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of the
40 Military

1 **SB 51:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation to support firefighter training
2 equipment and recruitment efforts in the state, and to declare an emergency.

3 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of Public
4 Safety

5 **SB 60:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year
6 2022.

7 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Bureau of Finance and
8 Management

9 Were read the first time and referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

10 **SB 42:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to contract for the
11 design and construction of an addition to the wellness center at the University of South Dakota, to
12 make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency.

13 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Board of Regents

14 **SB 43:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to contract for the
15 design, renovation, and construction of an addition for a health sciences center at Black Hills State
16 University–Rapid City, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency.

17 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Board of Regents

18 **SB 44:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the Board of Regents to contract for the
19 demolition of Briscoe Hall and the existing Lincoln Hall, and the design and construction of the new
20 Lincoln Hall, at Northern State University, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an
21 emergency.

22 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Board of Regents

23 **SB 59:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise property tax levies for school districts and to
24 revise the state aid to general and special education formulas.

25 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Bureau of Finance and
26 Management

27 **SB 61:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation to the Board of Technical
28 Education to support the purchase of simulation equipment for a health sciences clinical simulation
29 center on the campus of Southeast Technical College and to declare an emergency.

30 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Board of Technical
31 Education

32 **SB 71:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the tax credit limit for the partners in education
33 tax credit program.

34 Introduced by: **Senator** Schoenbeck

35 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Education.

1 **SB 4:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions related to a written certification for
2 the medical use of cannabis.

3 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, and Wheeler
4 and **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
5 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
6 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

7 **SB 5:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise acceptable conduct related to the medical use
8 of cannabis.

9 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Duhamel, and Stalzer and
10 **Representatives** Finck, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Fitzgerald, Milstead, Perry, and Wiese at
11 the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

12 **SB 8:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions concerning civil penalties imposed
13 for violations related to medical cannabis.

14 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer and
15 **Representatives** Finck, Bartels, Chaffee, Deutsch, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Perry, Wiese, and
16 Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

17 **SB 9:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the definition of a designated caregiver.

18 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, Rusch, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, and
19 Wheeler and **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
20 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
21 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

22 **SB 10:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require a cardholder or nonresident cardholder to
23 present photographic identification to receive medical cannabis.

24 Introduced by: **Senators** Rohl, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, and Wheeler
25 and **Representatives** Duba, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Finck, Fitzgerald,
26 Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
27 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

28 **SB 11:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions regarding the medical marijuana
29 oversight committee.

30 Introduced by: **Senators** V. J. Smith, Breitling, Duhamel, Rohl, Stalzer, and Wheeler and
31 **Representatives** Willadsen, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin,
32 Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, and Wiese at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study
33 Committee

34 **SB 12:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the annual report on medical cannabis by the
35 Department of Health to the Legislature.

36 Introduced by: **Senators** V. J. Smith, Breitling, Duhamel, Rohl, and Stalzer and
37 **Representatives** Willadsen, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin,
38 Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, and Wiese at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study
39 Committee

40 **SB 13:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to repeal provisions permitting certain documents to
41 serve as temporary registry identification cards for medical cannabis.

42 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer and
43 **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Chaffee, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead,
44 Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

1 **SB 14:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions related to the confidential list of
2 medical cannabis cardholders maintained by the Department of Health.

3 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, Stalzer, and Wheeler
4 and **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
5 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
6 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

7 **SB 15:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions providing that certain professions
8 are not subject to discipline for certain conduct relating to medical cannabis.

9 Introduced by: **Senators** Stalzer, Breitling, Heinert, Rohl, Rusch, V. J. Smith, and Wheeler and
10 **Representatives** Ernie Otten, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Perry,
11 Rehfeldt, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

12 **SB 17:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions regarding cost reimbursement
13 associated with medical cannabis.

14 Introduced by: **Senators** V. J. Smith, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, Stalzer, and Wheeler
15 and **Representatives** Willadsen, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
16 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, and Wiese at the request of the
17 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

18 **SB 18:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise rulemaking authority related to medical
19 cannabis.

20 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer and
21 **Representatives** Milstead, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Perry,
22 Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

23 **SB 19:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide that health care facilities and accredited
24 prevention and treatment facilities may establish reasonable restrictions related to the medical use
25 of cannabis.

26 Introduced by: **Senators** Breitling, Duhamel, Rohl, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer and
27 **Representatives** Finck, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead,
28 Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study
29 Committee

30 **SB 20:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the medical purpose defense related to the
31 medical use of cannabis.

32 Introduced by: **Senators** Duhamel, Breitling, and Stalzer and **Representatives** Milstead,
33 Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen
34 at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

35 **SB 21:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions related to the revocation of a
36 medical cannabis registry identification card.

37 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer
38 and **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
39 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
40 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

41 **SB 23:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the definition of bona fide practitioner-patient
42 relationship.

43 Introduced by: **Senators** V. J. Smith, Duhamel, Rusch, and Stalzer and
44 **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin,
45 Milstead, Mulally, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim
46 Study Committee

1 **SB 24:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish a maximum number of cannabis plants that
2 may be cultivated by a medical cannabis cardholder.

3 Introduced by: **Senators** V. J. Smith, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, and Stalzer and
4 **Representatives** Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Duba, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Ernie Otten,
5 Perry, and Wiese at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

6 **SB 26:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the definition of practitioner for purposes of
7 the medical cannabis program.

8 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Heinert, Rohl, and V. J. Smith and
9 **Representatives** Ernie Otten, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald,
10 Goodwin, Perry, Rehfeldt, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

11 **SB 27:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the provisions regarding the denial or
12 nonrenewal of a patient registry identification card.

13 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer
14 and **Representatives** Rehfeldt, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck,
15 Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
16 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

17 **SB 58:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for the construction of a new
18 state public health laboratory and the renovation of the existing laboratory and to declare an
19 emergency.

20 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of Health

21 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

22 **SB 1:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to codify legislation enacted in 2021.

23 Introduced by: The Committee on Judiciary at the request of the Code Commission

24 **SB 2:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to publish voter-approved initiated constitutional
25 amendments and initiated measures in the session laws.

26 Introduced by: The Committee on Judiciary at the request of the Code Commission

27 **SB 7:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions related to custody and visitation
28 rights by medical cannabis cardholders.

29 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer
30 and **Representatives** Finck, Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Fitzgerald,
31 Goodwin, Milstead, Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim
32 Study Committee

33 **SB 16:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to repeal provisions related to the prosecution, search,
34 seizure, penalty, or discipline of medical cannabis establishments for certain conduct.

35 Introduced by: **Senators** Duhamel, Breitling, Rohl, Rusch, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer and
36 **Representatives** Milstead, Bartels, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald, Goodwin,
37 Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

1 **SB 22:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise a reference to the Division of Criminal
2 Investigation.

3 Introduced by: **Senators** Wheeler, Breitling, Duhamel, Heinert, Rohl, V. J. Smith, and Stalzer
4 and **Representatives** Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Derby, Deutsch, Duba, Finck, Fitzgerald,
5 Goodwin, Milstead, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt, Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the
6 Marijuana Interim Study Committee

7 **SB 72:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish the crime of hazing and to provide a penalty
8 therefor.

9 Introduced by: **Senator** Rohl

10 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

11 **SB 41:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the appropriation for the construction of a
12 National Guard Readiness Center in Sioux Falls, and to declare an emergency.

13 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of the
14 Military

15 **SB 48:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for the redesign and
16 renovation of the Wagner Readiness Center and to declare an emergency.

17 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of the
18 Military

19 **SB 63:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise the appropriation for road improvements to
20 the State Veterans Cemetery, to provide for ordinary operations of the cemetery, and to declare an
21 emergency.

22 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of Veterans
23 Affairs

24 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs.

25 **SB 56:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions relating to the South Dakota
26 Retirement System.

27 Introduced by: The Committee on Retirement Laws at the request of the South Dakota
28 Retirement System

29 **SB 57:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to add gaming enforcement agents to Class B
30 membership of the South Dakota Retirement System.

31 Introduced by: The Committee on Retirement Laws at the request of the South Dakota
32 Retirement System

33 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Retirement Laws.

34 **SB 30:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to add Juneteenth as a state holiday.

35 Introduced by: **Senator** Nesiba

1 **SB 46:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to protect fairness in women's sports.

2 Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the Office of the Governor

3 **SB 50:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for water, wastewater and
4 storm water projects throughout state government, and to declare an emergency.

5 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Bureau of Administration

6 **SB 54:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to appropriate funds for the Dakota State University
7 Cyber Program Expansion and to declare an emergency.

8 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Governor's Office of
9 Economic Development

10 **SB 62:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to make an appropriation for eligible water, wastewater,
11 storm water, and nonpoint source projects and to declare an emergency.

12 Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Department of
13 Agriculture and Natural Resources

14 **SB 68:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise holiday pay for state employees.

15 Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the Bureau of Human
16 Resources

17 **SB 69:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for an electronic system to update voter
18 registration information.

19 Introduced by: The Committee on State Affairs at the request of the State Board of Elections

20 **SB 75:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish certain pay provisions for state employees
21 working shifts longer than eight hours a day.

22 Introduced by: **Senator** Nesiba

23 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on State Affairs.

24 **SB 25:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for the taxation of marijuana.

25 Introduced by: **Senators** Stalzer, Breitling, Duhamel, Rohl, Rusch, and Wheeler and
26 **Representatives** Bartels, Bordeaux, Chaffee, Fitzgerald, Goodwin, Ernie Otten, Perry, Rehfeldt,
27 Wiese, and Willadsen at the request of the Marijuana Interim Study Committee

28 **SB 37:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to repeal the bingo distributor license and bingo
29 manufacturer license and to repeal the bingo tax.

30 Introduced by: The Committee on Taxation at the request of the Department of Revenue

31 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Taxation.

32 **SB 28:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to disqualify for life any person from driving a
33 commercial vehicle who is convicted of a felony offense involving human trafficking.

34 Introduced by: The Committee on Transportation at the request of the Department of Public
35 Safety

1 **SB 29:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize highway maintenance vehicles to operate
2 at less than the posted minimum speed on interstate highways.

3 Introduced by: The Committee on Transportation at the request of the Department of
4 Transportation

5 **SB 66:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize the use of electric all-terrain and off-road
6 vehicles on public highways.

7 Introduced by: **Senator** Frye-Mueller

8 **SB 74:** FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise provisions regarding out-of-service motor
9 carrier violations.

10 Introduced by: **Senator** Wiik

11 Were read the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

12 Sen. Rusch moved that the Senate do now adjourn, which motion prevailed and at 12:30 p.m.
13 the Senate adjourned.

14 Kay Johnson, Secretary

15 **JOINT SESSION**

16 The Senate convened with the House of Representatives in the House Chamber for the purpose
17 of receiving a message from the Governor, Kristi Noem. The President of the Senate, Larry Rhoden,
18 presided.

19 The following prayer was delivered by Rev. Craig Wexler, Pierre/Fort Pierre Ministerial
20 Association, Pierre, South Dakota:

21 We begin with a reading from Romans chapter 13: "Let everyone be subject to the governing
22 authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that
23 exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling
24 against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers
25 hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear
26 of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority
27 is God's servant for your good."

28 Gracious God, Your sovereignty is powerful and right. Your sovereignty has allowed all of us to
29 be called and elected into this space and time. Remind all who hear, that Your will outweighs that
30 of any individual person or movement. We live in a time and space in which our country has become
31 more polarized than it has in decades. But where there is polarization, we pray for unity. Where
32 there is worship of the self—or worship of conflicting identities—remind us that our identity is in
33 YOU, and YOU ALONE. We are all created in your image and it is our brokenness and individualization
34 that continues to drive us apart.

35 But not today...Today, Almighty God, as we stand here together in this room—man and
36 woman—young and old—Republican and Democrat---but most importantly, Christian-God-fearing,
37 and South Dakotan.....I pray for all of the authority that your sovereign rule has been allowed into
38 power. We pray for Governor Noem and her continued leadership—bless her words—bless her
39 work—bless her support staff—bless her family. We pray for our Senators and Representatives, their
40 families and the constituents they serve. We pray for our judges of the court who continue to discern
41 and interpret justice on the laws that are created in these halls. Give them grace and wisdom. We
42 pray for every staff member in this building who keeps the work in these coming weeks, moving
43 forward. And finally...We pray for all other leaders in government across this nation, outside the
44 borders of this great state. Give them wisdom, humility, and insight into the true needs of this

1 country—not the personal agendas that continue to drive us apart, but the ideals of what created
 2 this country in the first place 246 years ago—faith, peace, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
 3 Come Lord Jesus, Come. It is in your name we pray, thanks be to God. Amen.

4 The Secretary of the Senate, Kay Johnson, called the roll of the Senate and the following
 5 members were present:

6 Bolin; Breitling; Cammack; Castleberry; Crabtree; Curd; Diedrich; Duhamel; Duvall; Foster;
 7 Frye-Mueller; Greenfield, Brock; Heinert; Hunhoff; Johns; Johnson, David; Klumb, Kolbeck; Maher;
 8 Nesiba; Novstrup, Al; Otten, Herman; Rohl; Rusch; Schoenbeck; Schoenfish; Smith, VJ; Stalzer;
 9 Steinhauer; Sutton; Symens; Tobin; Wheeler; Wiik; Zikmund.

10 The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, Patricia Miller, called the roll of the House and
 11 the following members were present:

12 Anderson; Aylward; Bartels; Barthel; Beal; Blare; Bordeaux; Chaffee; Chase; Cwach; Davis;
 13 Dennert; Derby; Deutsch; Drury; Duba; Finck; Fitzgerald; Goodwin; Greenfield, Lana; Gross;
 14 Hansen; Haugaard; Healy; Hoffman; Howard; Jamison; Jensen, Kevin; Jensen, Phil; Johnson, Chris;
 15 Karr; Keintz; Koth; Ladner; Lesmeister; Marty; May; Mills; Milstead; Miskimins; Mortenson; Mulally;
 16 Odenbach; Olson; Otten, Ernie; Overweg; Perry; Peterson, Kent; Peterson, Sue; Pischke; Pourier;
 17 Randolph; Reed; Rehfeldt; Reimer; Schneider; Smith, Jamie; Soye; St. John; Stevens; Thomason;
 18 Tidemann; Vasgaard; Weis; Weisgram; Wiese; Willadsen; Wink; York; Speaker Gosch.

19 Sen. Cammack moved that a committee of three on the part of the Senate and a committee of
 20 five on the part of the House be appointed to escort the Honorable Kristi Noem, Governor of the
 21 State of South Dakota, to the rostrum.

22 Which motion prevailed and the President announced as such committee Sens. Schoenbeck,
 23 Cammack, and Heinert on the part of the Senate and Reps. Hansen, Kent Peterson, Chris Johnson,
 24 Smith, and Lesmeister on the part of the House.

25 The Lieutenant Governor, Larry Rhoden, introduced the Honorable Kristi Noem, who delivered
 26 the State of the State Address.

27 The Sergeant at Arms announced the arrival of the Honorable Kristi Noem, who was escorted
 28 to the rostrum.

29 **STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS**

30 ***Introduction***

31 Lieutenant Governor Rhoden, Mr. Speaker, members of the House and Senate, Chief Justice
 32 Jensen, Supreme Court justices, constitutional officers, and my fellow South Dakotans:

33 I am honored to stand before you today as the Governor of a state that is proudly leading the
 34 nation. We are leading with a talented workforce. We are leading by growing our businesses. We
 35 are leading with strong schools. We are leading with freedom, limited government, fiscal
 36 responsibility, and a commitment to defending the values that have made our country great.

37 I am proud to report that the state of our state is stronger than it has ever been in our 133-
 38 year history.

39 This did not happen because of what government did. It happened because of what government
 40 did NOT do.

41 And it is because of our people.

1 Two years ago, we made a decision in the face of a global threat. We chose not to compromise
2 our values. We kept businesses, schools, and churches open. We did not decide who is essential and
3 who is not. We chose freedom and personal responsibility over mandates and lockdowns. We took
4 steps to be safe, to guard public health. But we also trusted people to make decisions that were
5 best for them and their families.

6 We did what was right — and we were attacked for our decision.

7 Today we are thriving because we upheld our principles. Our economy is strong. We have one
8 of the lowest unemployment rates in the United States.

9 South Dakota saw new families and new businesses move here from other states. From July
10 2020 to July 2021, South Dakota’s population grew nine times faster than the national average.
11 While places like California, New York, and Washington, D.C., are LOSING population.

12 The reason why is no secret. People want to live somewhere that respects them – that respects
13 their freedoms. They want to share in our quality of life. They’re coming here because they want to
14 be like us.

15 Last year, we were ranked the Number 1 state for helping our workforce and small businesses
16 get through the pandemic. We’ve had record tourism numbers and created opportunities for success
17 for everyone.

18 No group is succeeding in higher numbers than women in South Dakota. During the pandemic,
19 South Dakota was Top 3 for smallest negative impact on female workers. We also are one of the
20 Top 10 Best States for Women to live and work. I am very proud that South Dakota is one of the
21 Top 5 states for providing career opportunities for working moms.

22 We are seeing inspirational testimonies from women like our very own State Senator Jessica
23 Castleberry. I am so grateful she is allowing me to share her story with all of you today.

24 Fifteen years ago, Jessica suddenly found herself a single mother with three very young mouths
25 to feed and only \$3 in her checking account. She went to visit with a credit counselor to get some
26 advice on what she might do to improve her situation. Jessica shared her dreams of getting a
27 business degree and becoming a business owner someday. The woman responded to Jessica by
28 saying that there was no magic wand that could make her dream come true.

29 Well, that didn’t sit well with Jessica. She went and bought herself a magic wand and kept it
30 close to remind herself that she could make her dreams come true, regardless of what others
31 thought was possible. Through hard work, Senator Castleberry advanced her education and
32 launched her career. This year, she celebrated the 11th anniversary of her business in Rapid City,
33 which has three commercial locations. To this day, that magic wand sits in her office as a reminder
34 of all that is possible.

35 Sen. Castleberry’s story has good company here in the Capitol. In fact, all of the legislators
36 have inspirational stories that led them to where they are today. That is what is so special about
37 South Dakota. The Representatives and Senators in the SD Legislature truly do reflect the people
38 of South Dakota. They understand challenges, hardships, and loss. Today, you will hear more stories
39 about the amazing people in our state who have faced and overcome adversity. I believe you will
40 find inspiration in their stories and gain hope and excitement for the year ahead.

41 The South Dakota people worked together to navigate the pandemic. Over and over again, we
42 are recognized as one of the best states in the country because of our willingness to trust each
43 other.

44 Other states took a different course. They locked down. Closed up businesses. Shut schools.
45 Mandated masks. Their economies — their people — are paying the price. They have suffered. And
46 it didn’t have to happen. Unfortunately, we’re starting to see it happen all over again in some states.

1 But even here in South Dakota, we have new challenges — new barriers to the American
2 Dream. Inflation is rising. Washington is threatening to raise taxes as it piles on more debt and
3 spending. It's getting harder for families to put food on the table, gas in their car, or keep the lights
4 on.

5 The world economy is changing, too. We're seeing new technologies, emerging industries, and
6 international competition. We must be ready.

7 On top of all that, our children, our history, and our values are under attack.

8 These threats are already here. We're seeing it in our schools and communities. It's happening
9 in the news, on TV, in social media, and with what is taught to our children. It is up to us to defend
10 our values and prepare for the future.

11 So today, I will talk to you about the state of our great state — how we are succeeding – and
12 the steps we can take together to preserve what we have and grow even stronger.

13 ***Life, Liberty, Pursuit of Happiness***

14 We can make that happen by remaining true to the principles that made America so great in
15 the first place — and that make South Dakota the greatest state in the union.

16 Thomas Jefferson famously outlined our founding ideal in the Declaration of Independence:
17 "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable
18 Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

19 Jefferson continued by reminding us why government is here in the first place – to secure those
20 rights, not to grant them. Our rights come from God, NOT from government. And GOVERNMENT
21 must remain LIMITED to serve its proper role of securing those rights.

22 It's no mistake that when Thomas Jefferson wrote those famous words, that LIFE came first.
23 Government's most fundamental role is to defend the lives and safety of the people. That includes
24 the rights and the lives of unborn children.

25 ***Life***

26 Over the last decade, abortions have dropped sharply in South Dakota. In 2020, the total
27 number of abortions was down approximately 80% from a decade before.

28 That's something to celebrate, and it's thanks in part to the policies passed by some of the
29 legislators in this room. You have proven that abortion does not need to be a divisive issue. Last
30 year, every single legislator supported my bill to guarantee protections for unborn children with
31 Down syndrome.

32 I look forward to the day when all unborn lives are protected. The Supreme Court has a historic
33 opportunity to make that a reality. As soon as Roe v. Wade is overturned, our state laws are ready
34 to protect every unborn South Dakota child. But until then, we can take steps to protect South
35 Dakota children, today.

36 There is more we can do. Every human life is unique in a truly beautiful way from the moment
37 that they are conceived. It isn't long before they have their own unique heartbeat, too. Science tells
38 us that an unborn child's heartbeat starts 6 weeks after conception. And any abortion after that
39 point stops that heartbeat — stops that life — stops that gift from God.

40 Today, I am asking all of you to protect the heartbeats of these unborn children. I am bringing
41 legislation to ban all abortions once a heartbeat can be detected.

42 Last year, I signed an executive order banning telemedicine abortions in South Dakota. Today,
43 I am asking all of you to ban telemedicine abortions in state law.

1 Chemical abortions happen when a woman ends an unborn life with a pill. These procedures
2 are four times as likely to cause the woman getting the abortion to end up in the Emergency Room.
3 Chemical abortions are dangerous. I am asking all of you to take action to protect South Dakota
4 women from this dangerous procedure.

5 ***Adoption and Foster Care***

6 We can also protect lives by expanding access to adoption and foster care. This past year, 262
7 South Dakota children found their forever families, and 135 children were placed into a legal
8 guardianship.

9 All children deserve to grow up in a family where they are loved and protected. When I stood
10 at this podium for my first State of the State in 2019, I promised to talk about foster care at every
11 opportunity. Since then, we have made tremendous progress.

12 We have launched our Stronger Families Together initiative with the Department of Social
13 Services alongside America’s Kids Belong and South Dakota Kids Belong. I need faith-based
14 organizations, church leaders, business leaders, and other community organizations to come
15 alongside me in your hometowns and support those who choose to adopt or foster children.

16 In South Dakota, we support and serve others. My parents instilled that in me from a very
17 young age. We helped struggling families put food on the table or keep the lights on. I also had the
18 opportunity to grow up with a foster brother. I remember my parents telling me years later that
19 they wished they would have had more tools, more information, or more training so that they could
20 have helped him adjust better to becoming a part of our family.

21 Today, we have people in the room who can provide that kind of help. We have the leadership
22 of South Dakota Kids Belong here with us. Would you please stand, and everyone please join me in
23 thanking them for their efforts to help families going through crisis?

24 While we’re on the subject of Foster Care, today, I want to highlight a family that has been
25 providing foster care for twenty-two years. Rodney and Peggy Anderson have adopted nine children
26 out of the foster care system and have fostered many more. They’ve dealt with childhood trauma
27 and connected their foster kids with professionals to help them. Rod and Peggy give kids a place to
28 live, but more than that, they give them a home where they are loved and cared for.

29 One of our Family Services Specialists had this to say about the Andersons: “This family is by
30 far the most resilient, knowledgeable, fantastic, flexible, amazing family I have ever worked with.
31 They go above and beyond – always putting the children in their home first. They have some of the
32 toughest kids I’ve ever had on my caseload. And they handle them with patience and grace! We are
33 so incredibly lucky to have them as foster parents!”

34 I would like to have Rod and Peggy please stand. Three years ago, I created the Governor’s
35 Heroism Award to honor South Dakotans who went above and beyond. Rod and Peggy Anderson
36 are heroes. They’re heroes for how they’ve changed these kids’ lives. And this year, I’d like to
37 recognize Rodney and Peggy Anderson with the 2022 Governor’s Heroism Award. Let’s thank them
38 and every foster parent in this state for their tremendous, heroic efforts!

39 With more foster families like Rod and Peggy, we will be able to help even more children and
40 families in the years to come.

41 ***Expanding Healthcare Access***

42 Another way that we can advance life in South Dakota is by giving our people healthcare options
43 close to home.

44 Many South Dakotans live on farms, ranches, and in small towns. No matter where you live in
45 our state, you should have access to the highest quality care available. You should be able to get
46 the medical help you need.

1 We've increased flexibilities to bring healthcare directly to our patients. I signed legislation to
2 address this, and my budget this year expands telehealth to our emergency responders so that they
3 are available to help in a time of crisis, no matter where you live.

4 For years, emergency services in small towns across South Dakota have been largely run by
5 volunteers. Today, we have a volunteer ambulance crew with us from Onida. Would you all please
6 stand? The Onida Ambulance Service has been in operation since 1956. In 2000, they were named
7 the South Dakota Emergency Medical Service of the Year. They won that award again in 2020. To
8 win such an honor twice is a testament to their hard work and training.

9 They complete the hours and hours of training to become Emergency Medical Technicians and
10 ongoing training as well. They answer calls across Sully County. And they do it all as volunteers.
11 Their dedication to saving the lives of their fellow South Dakotans is inspirational. Will you help me
12 thank them for their service to the people here in South Dakota?

13 Unfortunately, our emergency responders are getting fewer and fewer. Many have gotten older,
14 and less people are stepping up to volunteer. We must reverse this trend. We need to recruit more
15 volunteer firefighters and emergency responders. And we need to support them with modern tools
16 – my budget does that. I look forward to working with all of you to get these wonderful folks the
17 equipment and training that they need.

18 For over a year, we have offered free at-home COVID tests to the people of South Dakota. Last
19 week, I announced that I had ordered 1 million new tests to be delivered to even more locations in
20 our state. Every citizen in South Dakota will have the access to get a free COVID test in their home
21 community. President Biden had promised this action but has failed to do so. The state will continue
22 to work together to take care of our people.

23 Our healthcare workers worked hard to keep us within our hospital capacity. Our systems
24 monitored people from home to ensure their safety while keeping beds available.

25 To our nurses, doctors, and healthcare professionals: we are getting you more help. We've
26 invited more healthcare professionals to come and live in South Dakota. We've made it possible for
27 out-of-state licenses to be recognized so that they can get right to work. And when they come here,
28 they will have the opportunity to work for some of the greatest systems in the country.

29 Healthcare workers in South Dakota have faced perhaps the greatest challenges of their career
30 over these past two years. I am amazed by their efforts, and I am so grateful for how they have
31 sacrificed to serve others.

32 ***Mental Health/Addiction***

33 Another problem we need to address is addiction and mental illness, and we are doing that
34 through our targeted treatment and prevention initiatives. While overdoses have been skyrocketing
35 across the country, in South Dakota, overdose deaths dropped by 19 percent.

36 There's more work to do. In 2022, we will launch a statewide behavioral health campaign,
37 continue to focus on fighting meth, and raise awareness about available resources. These efforts
38 are saving lives.

39 Unfortunately, we are seeing that increased drug activity from the border is making its way
40 into our communities. Counterfeit fentanyl is a serious problem. We can thank our law enforcement
41 agencies who are working to keep this poison off our streets.

42 As for mental health, my budget creates regional behavioral crisis centers. These centers will
43 help us get people appropriate care more quickly and close to home. This will help relieve the
44 pressure on law enforcement and emergency rooms.

45 I take our citizens' health seriously. I don't make these decisions lightly. And when we create
46 new policy, we're going to do everything we can to get it right from day one. Our state's medical
47 cannabis program is one example. It was launched on schedule according to the timeline passed by

1 South Dakota voters. I know there will be some debate about that program this session. My focus
2 is on making sure South Dakota has the safest, most responsible, and well-run medical cannabis
3 program in the country.

4 ***Liberty***

5 Together, we can make protecting lives our priority so that all South Dakotans can enjoy our
6 God-given gift of liberty – the second unalienable right the Declaration upholds.

7 ***Prayer in Schools***

8 There is one freedom that is fundamental to our nation’s founding. It is the freedom to worship.

9 In the Preamble to our state’s Constitution, we express gratitude “to Almighty God for our civil
10 and religious liberties.” Our state’s motto is, “Under God the people rule.” And we began here today
11 — in this chamber — with a prayer asking for God’s grace and guidance. Yet in our public schools,
12 prayer is absent – forbidden.

13 I am introducing legislation that would allow for a moment of silence at the beginning of each
14 school day. Students can choose to reflect on the upcoming day or have a quiet moment – they can
15 also exercise their First Amendment right to pray. We will protect the freedom to worship and re-
16 instill a right that has been absent for far too long in our schools.

17 ***Economic Freedom***

18 Another fundamental liberty is the right of individuals to provide for themselves and their
19 families. Government, at times, abuses its power and interferes with that liberty. But never in our
20 history have we seen government shut down liberty as we saw during the pandemic.

21 State after state imposed mandates and lockdowns. Closed businesses and churches. America
22 is still suffering the consequences.

23 Other states told people that they weren’t essential -- picked winners and losers. We kept the
24 doors to businesses open.

25 Ace Hardware in Sioux Falls is a great example of a thriving business in South Dakota. They
26 weathered the worst days of the pandemic without laying off a single employee. They innovated
27 quickly, protected the health of their staff and customers, and continued their passion for quality
28 service and customer care. Similar success stories can be found time and time again around our
29 great state.

30 Here with us today is a young woman named Alyssa Nix, a small business owner in Sioux Falls.
31 Alyssa was born and raised in Sioux Falls and started working in retail and fashion when she was
32 16 years old. In February 2018, she took out a loan to purchase a women’s clothing boutique, which
33 fulfilled a life-long dream for her. She is proud to sell clothing and accessories that make women
34 feel confident about themselves at all budget levels and for all occasions.

35 Alyssa was nervous when the pandemic hit. She didn’t know what the future had in store, and
36 she didn’t think she could keep her business going if she had been forced to close.

37 I heard about Alyssa’s store from my daughters, so I decided to stop in one day when Bryon
38 and I were in Sioux Falls running errands. While I was there, Alyssa and I chatted about the weather,
39 horses (which we both love) and 4-H -- we have both been 4-H leaders for years. During our visit,
40 Alyssa told me with tears in her eyes that if our state made different decisions during the pandemic
41 the past 2 years and not trusted her, she didn’t know if her store would still be open. Her life-long
42 dream would have come to an end. She was so grateful she was respected by her government and
43 thankful to still be able to serve her customers.

1 Alyssa’s American Dream is alive and well in South Dakota. Because we trusted small business
2 owners, like Alyssa and Ace Hardware, to find ways to adapt, we gave them an opportunity to
3 survive. Every other state in this country ordered some businesses to close. That didn’t happen
4 here.

5 Alyssa, I’d like to ask you to please stand and also thank you -- thank you for your love for
6 people and willingness to share your story. So many little girls dream of growing up and striking out
7 on their own, owning their own business, and they can look up to you. Thank you for your strength
8 and for not giving up on your dream. Would you all join me in giving Alyssa a round of applause?

9 ***Cutting Regulations***

10 One way that we can continue to expand liberty is by remembering that government should
11 not make it harder to have a career.

12 My Department of Labor is eliminating barriers to employment. And they’re partnering with
13 others to promote job training and match students with the best career for them. Here are a few
14 examples:

15 In 2021, the Department of Labor worked with the Department of Education and schools across
16 the state to promote “South Dakota Week of Work.” The week included job fairs, job shadowing
17 opportunities, and visits by professionals to classrooms to share their experiences in communities
18 across the state. For example, Hanson High School hosted 40 guest speakers representing 16
19 different career areas.

20 We have partnered with Dakota State University to create a Future Workforce Finder tool. We
21 are expanding the Upskill program to the South Dakota Women’s Prison and other career fields to
22 get workers trained for in-demand jobs. We are partnering with adult education providers across
23 the state to offer more options for adults to achieve their GED, to help them in their career.

24 We are focused on EXPANDING opportunities and liberty, not regulating it away. And South
25 Dakota’s jobs market continues to be a national leader as a result.

26 ***Revenue Update and Tax Cuts***

27 In order for us to defend liberty, government must remain limited. And part of how we do that
28 is through our budget process -- through our commitment to fiscal responsibility. I want to assure
29 every South Dakotan of this: we will not use one-time money -- whether federal or state dollars --
30 for ongoing expenses or new programs. It would be irresponsible to create or expand any ongoing
31 programs with one-time dollars.

32 A month ago, I reported to you the exceptional revenue growth that South Dakota has enjoyed
33 because of the steps that we took in South Dakota. Since that time, we’ve received even more great
34 news, which I’m prepared to share with you today.

35 In addition to the estimates I gave you back in December, our economy is even stronger than
36 expected. Ongoing general fund revenues were \$20.8 million higher than the revised estimates from
37 December. So far this fiscal year, we’re \$116 million above ongoing legislative adopted estimates.
38 That’s fantastic news, and we should return a portion of these strong revenues to the people of
39 South Dakota.

40 I am announcing three proposals today to cut taxes and fees for the hard-working men and
41 women in South Dakota.

42 First of all, let’s eliminate fees associated with starting or renewing a business with the
43 Secretary of State in South Dakota. In 2020, the theme of my State of the State was “Open for
44 Business,” and we are continuing that commitment today. We are already among the most business-
45 friendly states in America, and with this step, we will make it even easier to do business here.

1 Let's also eliminate all fees for concealed carry permits in the state. We will pay the costs for
2 federal background checks, as well. It will not cost you a penny to exercise your Second Amendment
3 rights in South Dakota.

4 Three years ago, Constitutional Carry was the very first bill that I signed as Governor. We
5 guaranteed the right of our people to keep and bear arms. Together, we will continue to defend this
6 key constitutional liberty.

7 Finally, although we don't have many taxes in South Dakota, I am proposing that we eliminate
8 a ridiculous tax. Did you know that we have a bingo tax? This is largely a tax on our elderly
9 populations and veterans. I'm proposing that we get rid of it, and this is just the beginning.

10 ***Vaccine Legislation***

11 Financially, we see the impact of protecting liberty in South Dakota, but unfortunately, personal
12 liberties are under attack. But that attack IS NOT coming from state government. It's coming from
13 the Biden Administration in Washington, D.C.

14 I always promised you I would protect our state from overbearing federal intrusion into our
15 daily lives. So we took action. South Dakota has joined four lawsuits against the Biden
16 Administration's unconstitutional vaccine mandates, and we are winning in court. The issue has
17 advanced to the United States Supreme Court and oral arguments were heard last week.

18 The COVID vaccination should be a choice. And we should reject the efforts that we're seeing
19 in other parts of the country to divide us into two classes: vaccinated and unvaccinated.
20 Unvaccinated Americans are still Americans. We live in a free country – free to make our own
21 decisions. The government does not get to make them for us.

22 I am bringing legislation this session to protect the people's right to a medical or religious
23 exemption from COVID vaccines, just as my executive order did for state employees. We will also
24 recognize natural immunity. I hope you will support the bill.

25 ***Game, Fish, and Parks***

26 From day one, it has been my priority to focus on the next generation of South Dakotans. Our
27 way of life here is special, but so are our natural resources.

28 Teddy Roosevelt once said, "Of all the questions which can come before this great nation, there
29 is none which compares in importance with the great central task of leaving this land even a better
30 land for our descendants than it is for us."

31 We take that message to heart here in South Dakota. We take care of our natural resources
32 because we want them to be available for our kids and grandkids.

33 U.S. News & World Report ranks South Dakota in the Top 3 for Natural Environment and top 3
34 for the least pollution. We are nearly four-times higher than the national average for using renewable
35 energy.

36 One of the first priorities I outlined as Governor was the Second Century Initiative. This
37 Initiative raises money to support pheasant habitat, trap predators who threaten our pheasant
38 populations, and educate South Dakotans about our wildlife and land. It helps preserve our state's
39 status as a top destination for pheasant hunting.

40 The Second Century Initiative has benefitted hunters, while also supporting our farmers and
41 ranchers. They're improving water and soil quality and enhancing opportunities for all who enjoy
42 the outdoors.

43 Last year, we raised \$1.4 million for the Second Century Habitat Fund. These dollars go directly
44 toward expanding habitat acres across South Dakota. We also raised almost five and a half million
45 dollars with the Habitat Stamp. Between these efforts, we have added more than 10,000 acres of

1 habitat for our wildlife, created additional public access for fishing and hunting, and completed
2 hundreds of habitat improvement projects on existing public lands.

3 Habitat helps our economy, too. Hunting and fishing adds \$1.3 billion to the state economy. As
4 a result, South Dakota is the number one state for licensed hunters per capita. We've seen an 8%
5 increase in sales for resident combo hunting and fishing licenses and a 16% increase in out-of-state
6 small game licenses over the 3-year average. We've also had big increases in youth hunting,
7 including a record increase in youth participation for the Nest Predator Bounty program. Youth
8 fishing licenses and small game hunting licenses grew by 23% for residents and 83% for
9 nonresidents. More of our kids are becoming interested in the outdoors.

10 Meanwhile, our state parks saw a 10% increase for park entrance licenses over last year's
11 record, with an estimated 8.5 million visitors. We plan to add more campsites at Custer State Park
12 to expand our ability to host people from in and out of state. Since 2015, we have seen an increase
13 of nearly 100,000 camping nights reserved throughout the state park system. I am hopeful you will
14 support these projects.

15 We have a fantastic army of volunteers who work at our parks each year. This past year, we
16 had 443 volunteers log a total of 103,000 hours of service. I am so grateful for all those folks who
17 volunteer to welcome people who visit our state parks.

18 Because we trusted in liberty, people chose to visit our state by the millions. We didn't just
19 keep the "open" sign on. We rolled out the welcome mat for tourists. We broke records for visitor
20 spending, visits to our state parks, and so much more. More people came to Mount Rushmore last
21 year than ever in our history.

22 Countless families made South Dakota their travel destination. And because of our world-class
23 hospitality, we can be sure that many of them will be back.

24 ***Fairness in Sports***

25 Freedom and Liberty are about self-determination and the right to achieve — to reach our
26 fullest potential. But there is a troubling movement in our society. Our young girls are having their
27 freedom to achieve taken away by schools and organizations that are changing the rules of the
28 game in competition.

29 When our kids participate in sports and activities, they learn valuable lessons like teamwork,
30 perseverance, and hustle. For many activities, it may not matter whether kids are male or female —
31 they are on an equal playing field: debate, theater, and academic competitions, to name a few. But
32 for other activities, the playing field is not equal.

33 Allyson Felix is an American track and field star. She's won 25 Olympic and World Championship
34 medals, including 17 gold medals, the most of any track and field athlete ever — male or female.
35 She specialized in the 400-meter race, with a lifetime best of forty-nine-point-two-six seconds. Yet
36 HUNDREDS of high school aged boys have run faster times than that. Common sense tells us why.
37 Boys' and girls' bodies are biologically different.

38 In South Dakota, only girls can play in girls' sports according to the executive orders I signed
39 almost a year ago. But I am introducing -- and hope you will support -- a bill that will be the
40 strongest law in the nation. Congress passed Title IX years ago to guarantee that girls have a level
41 playing field on which they can succeed — to ensure their liberty to achieve.

42 They can win high school championships, maybe earn scholarships, maybe even go on to play
43 professional sports. We need to protect the freedom of our young girls to go out there and do it.

44 ***Pursuit of Happiness***

45 Success in America is by no means a given. But if you work hard and put your mind to it, you
46 can accomplish anything. That's the American Dream. That's what the pursuit of happiness is all
47 about.

1 But there's a new ideology taking hold in our country. It redefines our culture. It rejects the
2 American Dream. It tells children that our country is racist. It divides us based on the color of our
3 skin. It teaches a distorted view of our history — and it undermines the foundation of our society.

4 We must act now to protect the American Dream – to preserve the pursuit of happiness for
5 future generations.

6 ***True, Honest History***

7 Over 30 years ago in his farewell address, President Ronald Reagan asked the nation an
8 important question: "Are we doing a good enough job teaching our children what America is and
9 what she represents in the long history of the world?" He reminded us that we need to educate our
10 kids and our grandkids that, quote, "America is freedom – freedom of speech, freedom of religion,
11 freedom of enterprise. And freedom is special and rare. It's fragile. It needs protection."

12 President Reagan was right. We have to make sure our children know America's promise. We
13 have to teach them the true, honest history of our country.

14 In state after state, school after school, children are being exposed to radical political ideologies
15 like Critical Race Theory. We are not going to let that happen in South Dakota.

16 Our state supports opportunity for all. We don't teach our children to be divisive and organize
17 them into separate groups based on skin color. I am bringing legislation this year to enshrine these
18 values and protect our students from hatred and division.

19 Schools are where our children learn the consequences of making mistakes and the hard work
20 of success. By the same token, they should learn from both America's triumphs and our mistakes.
21 And then they learn the overwhelming benefits of working together to fix those mistakes so that we
22 all share a brighter future.

23 As we update our social studies standards, they must reflect America's true and honest history.
24 Native American history will be a part of that. Our tribal culture and heritage are essential to who
25 we are as a state – and it must be balanced and woven into the full context of American history and
26 civics.

27 Today, I'm proud to be joined by a friend of mine, and a hero in his own right, Dr. Ben Carson
28 and his wife Candy. Despite the challenges of his childhood, Dr. Carson grew up to become one of
29 the most accomplished surgeons in American history. His story is the American Dream, and he
30 followed it up with a career in public service.

31 Today, Dr. Carson continues to advance the values that make America so special through his
32 work at the American Cornerstone Institute, which just launched an online learning platform called
33 Little Patriots to teach children about our country's founding principles.

34 Additionally, he has been instrumental in the work of 1776 Action. Last year, they released the
35 "1776 Pledge" as part of a nationwide effort to restore "honest, patriotic education" in our K-12
36 schools. I was proud to be the first candidate for public office in the nation to sign that Pledge, and
37 Dr. Carson joined me in co-authoring an op-ed outlining that decision. I applaud his efforts to ensure
38 that all of our kids and grandkids understand and love our nation's history and values. Please join
39 me in thanking Dr. Carson for being here today.

40 ***Education***

41 The pandemic was very hard on schoolchildren across this country. South Dakota was recently
42 ranked first in the nation for the least amount of learning loss among students during the pandemic.

43 Because our students were in the classroom for all of last school year, our kids saw positive
44 outcomes in their learning. In 2021, six of our schools were nationally recognized for excelling in
45 the classroom. Arlington and Pinedale Elementary Schools, Gettysburg Middle School, and O'Gorman
46 High School, Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools were all named National Blue Ribbon Schools.

1 Explorer and Platte-Geddes Elementary were both named National Distinguished Schools and will
2 be honored next month at the National Elementary and Secondary Education Act Conference.

3 It is wonderful to see our elementary schools leading the nation in education, but we are also
4 seeing success at middle schools and high schools through our Jobs for America's Graduates
5 programs, more commonly known as JAG. We brought this program to our state with legislation in
6 2019. This program focuses on helping students who are at high risk not to graduate. It has been
7 tremendously successful at putting students on a path to graduation and future success.

8 In the last two years, JAG program enrollment has grown by 50 percent, and three new schools
9 have been added. Today, South Dakota's JAG programs have seen a nearly 100 percent graduation
10 rate for program participants.

11 This year, the Lyman school board added its first JAG program. Students took advantage of
12 opportunities to work with local and statewide volunteer organizations. Others explored cutting-
13 edge careers in health care and cybersecurity. We have seen students not only make a change in
14 their attitude toward school but also think about their future beyond high school and their place in
15 their communities. JAG is helping these students at risk of dropping out to achieve graduation and
16 be ready for their futures. And more school districts should look at bringing JAG into their
17 communities.

18 ***Investing in Skilled Training***

19 As the world economy changes, South Dakotans need new skills and new training to be
20 prepared for the careers of the future. South Dakota is Number 1 in the nation for our graduation
21 rate in 2-year college programs, and we are in the Top 10 for higher education. We are expanding
22 the cybersecurity program at Dakota State University with a \$30 million dollar investment. And the
23 Freedom Scholarship that you supported last year is starting to change the lives of South Dakota
24 students that didn't have an opportunity to further their education before because of economic
25 challenges.

26 Together, we'll continue setting our students up for a brighter and happier future.

27 ***Law Enforcement***

28 But we cannot enjoy life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness if we are not safe on our streets,
29 in our schools, at our businesses, or in our homes. Our way of life — our civil society — depends on
30 the brave men and women of law enforcement. We respect law and order in South Dakota, and we
31 will continue to support those who uphold the law and keep our streets safe.

32 Today, we have with us some law enforcement officers who have recently moved to South
33 Dakota. Would you please stand?

34 When the riots and violence started across the country months and months ago, we launched
35 a nationwide campaign to recruit law enforcement officers to move to our state. We wanted every
36 police officer in America to know that if they wanted to live somewhere they were appreciated and
37 respected, then come to South Dakota.

38 Hundreds of law enforcement officers responded to our invitation. And we are so proud to be
39 known as a state that stands and defends the people who put their lives on the line every day to
40 keep our communities safe.

41 ***National Guard and Veterans***

42 We are also free to pursue our American Dream because of the women and men in our armed
43 forces who defend our country at home and abroad. Could we have any members of the South
44 Dakota National Guard please stand and join the officers that are currently standing?

1 Our South Dakota National Guard continues to demonstrate excellence. The 114th Fighter Wing
2 in Sioux Falls earned the prestigious Spaatz Trophy for Most Outstanding Air Guard unit yet again
3 in 2021, for the fifth time in fifteen years. And the Brookings-based 152nd won the Walter T. Kerwin,
4 Jr. Readiness Award, the fourth straight year that a South Dakota Guard unit has been named the
5 best National Guard unit in the country.

6 Our Guard has stepped in to help with everything asked of them: storm recovery, firefighting,
7 drug stops , COVID medical support, and of course helping to secure our nation’s borders and
8 ensuring our shared defense.

9 We are also the proud home of many veterans. Could I ask our veterans to stand and join the
10 others?

11 Our Department of Veterans Affairs has earned a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare
12 and Medicaid -- the highest level possible. The Yankton School District won the 2021 Secretary of
13 Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, one of just 15 nationally given out. The opening of the
14 State Veterans Cemetery in Sioux Falls has given us a dignified final resting spot for eligible veterans
15 and their spouses. Our efforts to pass laws to honor our veterans are being noticed. South Dakota
16 has been named the number one state in the nation for veterans to live and work.

17 South Dakota honors those who honor the call to serve -- the men and women who put their
18 lives on the line to defend life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Would you all join me in thanking
19 these veterans, national guard members, and law enforcement for their bravery and sacrifice.

20 ***Moving to South Dakota***

21 It wasn’t just law enforcement that moved to South Dakota. Thousands of new residents made
22 the move. Our state is top-3 in the nation for inbound migration, according to United Van Lines.

23 Georgi Boorman is a native of Washington State who was fed up with lockdowns. Fed up with
24 not being able to go to church. Fed up with the “ever-changing rules,” as she describes it. In
25 Washington, her family had to restrict capacity at their cafe. She had to wear a mask everywhere
26 she went, even when other people weren’t around. Georgi had enough. And she was ready to make
27 a change.

28 She took a road trip to the Black Hills. And as she was driving home to Washington, she said
29 “I don’t want to go back.” She wanted to move to South Dakota, but she wanted to stay close to
30 her family.

31 So the family came, too -- her kids’ grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Then more family
32 followed. Eventually, South Dakota gained dozens of new residents from a family that loved freedom
33 and was tired of tyranny. More are still planning to come! The only home they had ever known was
34 Washington -- but it didn’t feel like home anymore. They fell in love with South Dakota.

35 ***Business Success***

36 Many people who moved here brought their businesses with them – big and small. Aesir
37 Technologies chose Rapid City as the location for their new Gigafactory after a nationwide search.
38 They considered what every other state in this country had to offer, and then they chose South
39 Dakota as the best place for them to expand. They’ll create 400 new good-paying high-tech jobs in
40 the process.

41 Albany Farms moved the headquarters of its food manufacturing operations from Los Angeles
42 to Belle Fourche. This new facility will give wheat farmers a new place to sell their product and bring
43 in more than 500 jobs.

1 Businesses that have always called South Dakota home also expanded. Ten South Dakota
2 businesses were named among the fastest growing in the nation earlier this year. Furniture Mart
3 USA is doubling its campus in Sioux Falls, creating a 650,000 square foot facility. North Sioux City
4 is adding over 300 acres to their industrial park to host many businesses. And they're preparing to
5 build 300 new career homes to support that growth.

6 Black Hills Harley Davidson led the WORLD in Harley sales. In fact, no Harley Davidson
7 dealership ANYWHERE has ever seen the revenue that Black Hills Harley achieved in 2021. That was
8 driven by our strong economy -- by tourism, particularly visitors to the Sturgis Rally – and it was
9 driven by the work ethic of the men and women who run this dealership.

10 Black Hills Harley is not just a record-setting motorcycle dealership. In the middle of a
11 dangerous wildfire near Rapid City earlier this year, Black Hills Harley allowed their store to be used
12 as the headquarters for the fire response. They gave our firefighters and first responders free use
13 of their facilities and didn't ask for anything in return.

14 No matter how these businesses got here or got started, they are thriving because here in
15 South Dakota, the government gets out of the way, allows them to grow and innovate, and helps
16 out where we can.

17 **CLOSING**

18 We are free here in South Dakota, but we cannot take that freedom for-granted. President
19 Reagan reminded us, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't
20 pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them
21 to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children's children what it was
22 once like in the United States when men were free."

23 In South Dakota, we will protect freedom. We will pass it on to our children. We will not allow
24 freedom to go extinct.

25 That's what it means to be South Dakotans. We work together to help our communities grow,
26 thrive, and remain safe, strong, and healthy. We support our local businesses, and they support us
27 in return. We set an example for the nation in how we do business, how we approach public policy,
28 and how we interact with each other every single day.

29 We are blessed to be living in South Dakota. The state of our state is the strongest it has ever
30 been — even with so many challenges in the world around us.

31 But our state isn't measured by one snapshot in time.

32 It is our duty to ensure that it is strong for generations to come.

33 Let's work together this session to keep the doors of opportunity open for our people – and to
34 guarantee the promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

35 May God bless you all. And God bless the great state of South Dakota.

36 Sen. Cammack moved that the Joint Session do now dissolve.

37 Which motion prevailed.

