

2023 South Dakota Legislature
Senate Resolution 701

**AMENDMENT SR701B
FOR THE INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

1 **A RESOLUTION, ~~Urging the South Dakota Department of Transportation to~~**
2 **~~reconsider the three-lane proposal for State Highway 46~~Supporting the South**
3 **Dakota Department of Transportation Wagner four-lane proposal.**

4 WHEREAS, the need to keep the South Dakota Department of Transportation proposed
5 four lane total road package including drainage, sewer, and lighting is of vital importance to
6 the future of Wagner in any new construction or repair on Highway 46 through Wagner; and

7 WHEREAS, the four-lane plays a vital role in tourism, economic development, Wagner
8 retail business, access to health care including Indian Health Services, emergency services,
9 public education, elderly living, regional agriculture and tourism, and much more; and

10 WHEREAS, the four-lane has played a pivotal role in the expansion of commerce in and
11 around Wagner; and

12 WHEREAS, the four-lane has provided a safe, reliable, efficient, and effective means of
13 travel to and through Wagner for almost forty years; and

14 WHEREAS, on December 6, 2022, the citizens of Wagner overwhelmingly verified their
15 rejection of the Wagner City Council's August 29, 2022, vote to support the South Dakota
16 Department of Transportation three-lane proposal by 133 to 64, a two to one margin; and

17 WHEREAS, the South Dakota Department of Transportation accident rate charts show this
18 stretch of road significantly lower compared to similar roads in the state. It does not appear
19 that this proposed road change will be done to improve safety. The Urban Principal Arterial
20 Crash rate in Wagner from 2015 to 2019 was 1.16 crashes per million vehicle miles traveled
21 while the state average is 1.95; and

1 WHEREAS, there is only a six percent cost difference between the four-lane and three-
2 lane reconstruction proposals; and

3 WHEREAS, the South Dakota Senate recognizes the overwhelming across the board public
4 support for the Wagner four-lanes proposal as witnessed by 1561 petition signers and
5 overwhelming public input in support of rebuilding the four-lane highway through Wagner:

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninety-Eighth Legislature of
7 the State of South Dakota, supports the South Dakota Department of Transportation four-
8 lane reconstruction proposal for Highway 46 through Wagner.