

# State of South Dakota

## EIGHTY-THIRD SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2008

274P0620

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

Introduced by: Senators Smidt (Orville), Apa, Dempster, Knudson, Lintz, Napoli, and Schmidt (Dennis) and Representatives Tidemann, Cutler, Dykstra, Feinstein, Glenski, Lust, Pitts, Van Etten, Weems, and Wick

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Commending youth mentoring programs across the state.

2 WHEREAS, mentoring is a powerful tool for helping children succeed in life. With the help  
3 and guidance of an adult mentor, a child can discover how to achieve his or her potential; and

4 WHEREAS, youth mentoring programs pursue high standards, matching mentor and child,  
5 based on shared interests, age preference, and any other factor that may enhance the relationship  
6 between the mentor and child; and

7 WHEREAS, the benefits of youth mentoring programs are endless, providing a child with  
8 a dependable figure that can offer emotional support as well as teach a child important life skills  
9 resulting in the reversal of the often discouraging tide of disintegrating values that seem to  
10 surround us; and

11 WHEREAS, there are exemplary mentoring programs in the state that conduct background  
12 checks on, and require references for, all volunteers and invest a significant amount of time  
13 training mentors. These programs include Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota School-  
14 based Mentoring, Sioux Falls; Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Glacial Lakes Region, Watertown;



1 Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sioux Empire, Sioux Falls; Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Black  
2 Hills, Rapid City; and Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program, Brookings:

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Eighty-Third Legislature  
4 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the youth  
5 mentoring programs across the state be commended for the guidance and support they provide,  
6 enabling children to reach their full potential as contributing adults in their communities.