



2026 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Concurrent Resolution 603

Introduced by: **Senator Karr**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION supporting the secretary of the United States**
2 **Department of Agriculture in establishing a working group of nutrition**
3 **experts to determine national standards for foods and beverages purchased**
4 **with supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.**

5 WHEREAS, the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) is a federal program
6 that provides food assistance to millions of Americans, including South Dakota residents, to
7 help ensure that families have access to food; and

8 WHEREAS, research shows that diet quality is directly linked to health outcomes, and
9 there is a need for clear national guidance on nutritious foods and beverages that can be
10 purchased with SNAP benefits; and

11 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to ensure that SNAP benefits are used responsibly to
12 support sound nutrition and healthy families; and

13 WHEREAS, nutrition standards for SNAP purchases should be informed by the latest
14 science, ensure equal access to healthy foods, and support public health objectives; and

15 WHEREAS, updated national dietary guidance, including a newly released food pyramid,
16 reflects current nutrition science and provides an opportunity to align SNAP purchasing
17 standards with widely accepted recommendations for healthy eating; and

18 WHEREAS, a federal mandate for nutritious foods in SNAP is a federal matter that requires
19 an act of Congress; and federal action is necessary to ensure consistency nationwide, avoid
20 unnecessary state administrative costs, and avoid a reversal of policy in a future federal
21 administration; and

22 WHEREAS, the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture has been directed
23 through H.R. Rep. No. 119-172, 119th Cong. (2025) to establish a working group of nutrition

1 experts to develop evidence-based standards that promote health and well-being, as a first
2 step toward congressional action to require nutritious foods in SNAP;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the One Hundred First Legislature
4 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South
5 Dakota Legislature supports the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture in
6 establishing a working group of nutrition experts to determine national standards for foods
7 and beverages that may be purchased with SNAP benefits; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature urges Congress to pass
9 legislation to implement the working group's recommendations for SNAP; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the secretary
11 of the United States Department of Agriculture and the South Dakota congressional
12 delegation.