



2026 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Concurrent Resolution 608

Introduced by: **Senator Smith**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging action to reduce hunger and food waste in this**
2 **state.**

3 WHEREAS, currently, disruptions in government assistance programs have increased
4 hunger and the need for further assistance from other sectors; and

5 WHEREAS, restaurants, grocery stores, and other food service establishments dispose of
6 food every day; and

7 WHEREAS, the disposed food is often perfectly safe, edible, and wholesome; and

8 WHEREAS, the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. § 1791)
9 protects food donors from liability and encourages food donations to nonprofit organizations;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, nonprofit organizations across the state and in our densest population centers
12 already work to rescue food waste and distribute it to those in need; and

13 WHEREAS, the Legislature has a responsibility to make sure that the government does
14 not stand in the way of the private sector's efficient allocation of resources; and

15 WHEREAS, restaurants and other food service establishments can collaborate with
16 community service providers to ensure that excess food can help feed the hungry at no
17 additional cost to the restaurant or food service establishment;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the One Hundred First Legislature
19 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that
20 community service providers and food service establishments are urged to collaborate to
21 prevent food waste and reduce rates of hunger in South Dakota.