



# 2026 South Dakota Legislature

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 606

SENATE ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator Hohn**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** encouraging the review and approval of water rights  
2 **applications and future use reservations from the Missouri River.**

3 WHEREAS, under SDCL 46-1-1 to 46-1-4, inclusive, the people of South Dakota have a  
4 paramount interest in the use of all water within this state, which is declared to be the  
5 property of the people, and the state shall ensure that water resources are developed for the  
6 greatest public benefit, put to beneficial use to the fullest extent possible, and not wasted or  
7 used unreasonably; and

8 WHEREAS, the demand for water is increasing in many parts of the western United States;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the Missouri River is the state's most substantial surface water source; and

11 WHEREAS, SDCL 46-5-38 authorizes certain entities to reserve water for contemplated  
12 future needs upon a showing of availability of unappropriated water and future need pursuant  
13 to procedures set forth in chapter 46-2A; and

14 WHEREAS, the Water Management Board is a statewide board, created by the Legislature  
15 for the purpose of equitably managing the water resources of this state;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the One Hundred First Legislature  
17 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that it is of  
18 the utmost importance that the Water Management Board prioritize the review and approval  
19 of water rights applications and future use reservations from the Missouri River submitted by  
20 South Dakota's public water systems to address the future needs of the people of this state.