

# State of South Dakota

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2019

299B0831

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1002

Introduced by: Representatives Duba, Borglum, Diedrich, Duvall, Greenfield (Lana), Healy, Hunhoff, Lesmeister, McCleerey, Peterson (Kent), Reed, Rounds, Schoenfish, Sullivan, and Willadsen

1 A RESOLUTION, Recognizing the impact of Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias on  
2 persons living with these conditions, caregivers, and the State of South Dakota.

3 WHEREAS, while Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias have been traditionally seen  
4 as an aging issue, these conditions constitute a public health issue, due to the large burden on  
5 society and the significant impact, but there are ways to intervene with the disease; and

6 WHEREAS, South Dakota has the third highest Alzheimer's death rate in America, and  
7 Alzheimer's is the fifth leading cause of death in South Dakota; and

8 WHEREAS, South Dakota has seen a one hundred thirty-five percent increase in  
9 Alzheimer's deaths since 2000; and

10 WHEREAS, seventeen thousand South Dakotans are living with Alzheimer's, with  
11 approximately sixty percent of the people impacted being men and forty percent women; and

12 WHEREAS, the number of South Dakotans living with Alzheimer's is estimated to grow  
13 to twenty thousand by 2025; and

14 WHEREAS, South Dakota spends significant resources annually caring for people with



1 Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias; and

2 WHEREAS, thirty-eight thousand caregivers, including family, friends, and neighbors, in  
3 South Dakota are providing care to persons with Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias,  
4 saving the state considerable money and resources; and

5 WHEREAS, nearly sixty percent of these caregivers have been providing care to a person  
6 with Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias for at least two years; and

7 WHEREAS, caregiving for individuals with Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias often  
8 takes an enormous toll on family members and creates important needs to reduce stress,  
9 depression, injuries, anxiety, isolation, and other health issues that caregivers of persons with  
10 Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias often face; and

11 WHEREAS, the onset of Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias cannot yet be stopped  
12 or reversed, but early detection and diagnosis allow persons with dementia and their families  
13 a better chance of receiving and benefitting from treatment, care, support services, and more  
14 time to put legal, financial and advanced directives in place for the future:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-  
16 Fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that stakeholders in healthcare, legal, and  
17 financial sectors, and the patients and families affected by Alzheimer's Disease and related  
18 dementias are encouraged to continue to work together toward meaningful solutions to address  
19 the public health impact of Alzheimer's Disease in South Dakota.