



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Concurrent Resolution 6004

*Introduced by: **Representative** Diedrich*

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, To create a task force for the purpose of reviewing**
 2 **the manner in which mental health services are delivered in this state and**
 3 **considering changes to existing models or alternative models that could be**
 4 **utilized for the delivery of mental health services on a regional basis in this**
 5 **state.**

6 WHEREAS, mental health issues in this state have risen to the level of a public
 7 health crisis; and

8 WHEREAS, legislative studies during the 2018 and 2019 interims focused on the
 9 challenges of effectively and efficiently delivering mental health services in a vast and
 10 sparsely populated area; and

11 WHEREAS, multiple task forces examining the challenges independently concluded
 12 that regionally focused solutions would be in the best interest of this state and its
 13 residents; and

14 WHEREAS, structuring a regional approach to mental health services would require
 15 current providers to reevaluate the manner in which outpatient and inpatient services are
 16 being made available, to jointly undertake efforts designed to coordinate the delivery and
 17 administration of services, and to creatively consider alternative delivery models in order
 18 to increase access to multiple levels of service for those in need, closer to their homes;
 19 and

20 WHEREAS, multiple task forces examining the challenges independently concluded
 21 that regionally focused solutions would also result in the Human Services Center being
 22 readily available for those patients having acute needs that cannot be appropriately
 23 addressed in other community settings; and

24 WHEREAS, the creation and ultimate implementation of a regionalized service
 25 delivery model will require a strategic approach involving legislators, Department of Social
 26 Services personnel, and mental health providers, for the purpose of developing a joint

1 vision and creating a viable business plan that addresses requisite facility restructuring,
2 administrative reorganization options, staffing requirements and availability, case
3 management models, and public and private financial resources, and ultimately results in
4 the development and implementation of a mental health continuum having, as its
5 foundation, integrated services, community based care, and outcome driven treatment
6 options that are determined collaboratively, with multiple stakeholder involvement; and

7 WHEREAS, a coordinated and systemic approach to the development of a
8 regionalized mental health delivery system will also provide additional analytical
9 opportunities regarding crisis care stabilization units, the use of telehealth crisis services
10 in remote counties by law enforcement agencies, the efficacy of recovery houses and
11 supported employment, the provision of case management services in all specialty courts,
12 the continuum of services available for children with mental health needs, the integration
13 of mental health in the primary care delivery system, and the potential impacts of
14 community education efforts;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the
16 Ninety-Fifth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that
17 the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council establish a task force on the
18 regionalization of mental health services in order to further the objectives described in
19 this resolution; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Department of Social Services personnel work in
21 cooperation with the mental health provider community to fully examine the options
22 articulated in this resolution and recommend statutory and regulatory changes necessary
23 to implement a comprehensive mental health delivery plan for this state; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to provide sufficient time for the
25 development of any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, the task
26 force prepare and present a final report regarding the work directed by this resolution to
27 the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council on or before December 1, 2020.