



2020 South Dakota Legislature
House Concurrent Resolution
6007
ENROLLED

AN ACT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting students and other persons afflicted by epilepsy and raising awareness of epilepsy in South Dakota.

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a disease characterized by an enduring predisposition to generate epileptic seizures and by the neurobiological, cognitive, psychological, and social consequences of this condition; and

WHEREAS, a seizure is an event, and epilepsy is the disease involving recurrent unprovoked seizures that is the fourth most common neurological disorder and affects people of all ages; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a spectrum condition with a wide range of seizure types and control varying from person-to-person; and

WHEREAS, one in twenty-six people will be diagnosed with epilepsy at some point in life and one in ten people will suffer a seizure at some point in life; and

WHEREAS, historical treatment of persons living with epilepsy has led to false, unsafe understandings of the disease and a significant underfunding of research when compared to other diseases; and

WHEREAS, 3.4 million people in the United States battle epilepsy every day, including over nine thousand people in South Dakota, and over one thousand children who are among the most vulnerable members of our state; and

WHEREAS, creating awareness of epilepsy will promote much-needed fundraising, seizure safety, and first aid knowledge to ensure the safety of our students and other citizens living with epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, the safety of students with epilepsy in South Dakota's schools is increased only through awareness of the disease by school boards and administration, teachers, support staff, parents, and the public at large; and

WHEREAS, the Epilepsy Foundation has free online or in-person resources available to schools and the public at large, including training programs that provide an overview of seizures and epilepsy, seizure first aid, seizure action plans, rescue therapies, seizure emergencies, and how to support students in school settings:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fifth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature supports the people of South Dakota afflicted by epilepsy and urges school boards and administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and the public at large to increase awareness of the disease for the better protection of vulnerable citizens in South Dakota.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

February 7, 2020
February 19, 2020

Steven G. Haugaard
Speaker of the House

Mary Lou Goehring
Chief Clerk

Larry Rhoden
President of the Senate

Kay Johnson
Secretary of the Senate