



2023 South Dakota Legislature

House Concurrent Resolution 6003

Introduced by: **Representative Teunissen**

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Encouraging the Executive Board of the Legislature**
2 **to authorize the interim legislative study of long-term care services for**
3 **veterans regardless of disability ratings and to develop long-term care plans**
4 **for VA-operated purchased and subsidized long-term care services.**

5 WHEREAS, South Dakota has a population of sixty-three thousand, nine hundred and fifty
6 resident veterans, of whom twenty thousand and seventy-one veterans are older than the
7 age of seventy; and

8 WHEREAS, the current and only state veterans nursing home, the Michael J. Fitzmaurice
9 South Dakota State Veterans Home, is located in the extreme southwestern part of the state,
10 in Hot Springs, South Dakota; and

11 WHEREAS, long-stay services are available for enrolled veterans who need nursing home
12 care for life or for an extended period of time for those veterans with a service-connected
13 disability rated sixty percent and who are unable to be employed, or veterans who have a
14 seventy percent or greater service-connected disability; and

15 WHEREAS, the community nursing home program has contracts established with VA
16 medical centers to help meet the needs of veterans who require long-term nursing home care
17 in their own community, close to family, and meet the enrollment and eligibility requirements;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, as our nation's veteran population ages, the United States Department of
20 Veterans Affairs and rural states will face an increasing demand for long-term care services:

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-
22 Eighth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, to recommend
23 to the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council the establishment of a legislative

1 study to address the needs of South Dakota veterans and the challenges that they face in
2 accessing long-term nursing home care; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this legislative study is recommended to be under the
4 supervision of the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council and staffed and funded
5 as an interim legislative committee, and that this committee report to the Legislature and the
6 Governor before the beginning of the Ninety-Ninth Legislative Session, including any further
7 draft legislation or policy recommendations.