



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Concurrent Resolution 6018

Introduced by: **Representative** Latterell

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, To urge the adoption of a joint rule requiring the state**
2 **Constitution to be read aloud on the floor of both houses each Legislative**
3 **Session.**

4 WHEREAS, the Constitution of South Dakota establishes the organization of the
5 government and protects the rights of the citizens; and

6 WHEREAS, the Constitution is our employment contract with the people which outlines the
7 duties, powers, and limits of the Legislature; and

8 WHEREAS, every elected official takes an oath to support the Constitution of the United
9 States and of the State of South Dakota, and has a solemn duty to read, understand, and
10 follow them faithfully; and

11 WHEREAS, the periodic reading of the Constitution of South Dakota is a convenient
12 refresher for the legislators as well as an educational demonstration for the public;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fifth
14 Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Joint
15 Legislature Procedure Committee is urged to adopt a joint rule at its next meeting in
16 substantially the following form:

17 The Constitution of South Dakota shall be read aloud in its entirety once per
18 legislative session, to be divided up into daily readings on no less than half of the
19 legislative days. The presiding officer of each house shall select one or more members for
20 the reading of the Constitution of South Dakota. During the reading, a quorum of members
21 must be present, and order must be maintained at all times.