

State of South Dakota

NINETIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2015

992W0415

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1002

Introduced by: Representatives Romkema, Anderson, Beal, Bolin, Brunner, Conzet, Cronin, Deutsch, Dryden, Gosch, Haggar (Don), Harrison, Jensen (Alex), Johns, Klumb, Langer, Marty, Partridge, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Ring, Rounds, Rozum, Schoenfish, Sly, Solum, Tulson, Verchio, Westra, Willadsen, Wink, and Wollmann and Senators Ewing, Jensen (Phil), Lederman, Monroe, Olson, Omdahl, Otten (Ernie), Peterson (Jim), Rampelberg, Rave, Rusch, Tieszen, and Van Gerpen

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting the continued operation of the D.C. Booth
2 Historic National Fish Hatchery.

3 WHEREAS, sport fishing routinely draws more than 268,000 participants in South Dakota
4 annually, constituting an important component of South Dakota's economy, with angler
5 expenditures exceeding \$313 million in 2011; and South Dakota benefited from an estimated
6 \$62 million in salaries, wages, and business owner earnings in 2006, and created 2,500 jobs; and

7 WHEREAS, the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks received more than
8 \$8.6 million in revenue from the sale of fishing licenses in fiscal year 2014, which represents
9 a significant portion of the agency's budget; and

10 WHEREAS, trout produced in both state and federal hatchery systems and stocked into
11 waters throughout South Dakota is important in maintaining sport fishing and its economic
12 benefits; and



1 WHEREAS, the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery produces trout to fill needs for
2 federal, tribal, and state water development projects throughout western South Dakota; and

3 WHEREAS, the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery & Archives, established in
4 1896, has stocked waters in western South Dakota, including tribal waters on the Pine Ridge and
5 Rosebud Reservations; and

6 WHEREAS, the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery & Archives serves as a key
7 economic contributor to the city of Spearfish, bringing in \$2.1 million annually or a return of
8 \$62 for every \$1 invested; and D.C. Booth is the city's top tourist attraction with over 150,000
9 visitors annually with \$840,000 being spent annually by nonresident visitors who attribute their
10 visits to Spearfish to the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery; and

11 WHEREAS, over \$141,000 is brought in annually in local and state tax and fee revenue
12 from the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery & Archives; and

13 WHEREAS, the staffing, expertise, resources, and a large portion of the funding for the
14 operation and maintenance of the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery & Archives is
15 supplied by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, further benefiting the city of Spearfish and the
16 state of South Dakota; and the existence of D.C. Booth contributes 27 jobs to the area; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service recently completed a study
18 predicting that the closure of the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery will curtail the
19 stocking of South Dakota's waters, entailing a loss of associated economic benefits; and

20 WHEREAS, the continuation of the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery's role as
21 a trout producer, and an educational and tourist facility is extremely important to South Dakota's
22 economy and sport fishing:

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninetieth
24 Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that:

1 (1) The South Dakota Legislature supports the continued operation of the D.C. Booth
2 Historic National Fish Hatchery and urges the United States Fish and Wildlife
3 Service, in partnership with the Department of Game, Fish and Parks, to maintain its
4 current mission of stocking South Dakota waters for recreational fishing and the
5 recovery of threatened and endangered species;

6 (2) The South Dakota Legislature supports the operation of the hatchery and adjacent
7 federal lands in a manner that promotes public recreation and scientific research and
8 educational activities; and

9 (3) The South Dakota Legislature urges the Department of Environment and Natural
10 Resources and the Department of Game, Fish and Parks to work with the United
11 States Fish and Wildlife Service to protect the operation of the D.C. Booth Historic
12 National Fish Hatchery; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this House Concurrent Resolution be sent to
14 all members of the South Dakota delegation to the United States Congress, the Secretary of the
15 Interior, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and Governor Dennis
16 Daugaard.