



## 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.