

PREPARED BY: CITY OF LEAD
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LEAD, SD 57754
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CITY OF LEAD RESOLUTION #: 2025-03

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO SOUTH DAKOTA HOUSE BILL 1041

The City Commission of the City of Lead, a municipal corporation, meeting in regular session on February 3, 2025, pursuant to SDCL 9-19, motion was made by ____, seconded by _____ that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the South Dakota State Library has long served as a vital institution providing free and open access to historical, legal, and governmental resources to all South Dakota citizens; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1041, introduced in the 2025 South Dakota Legislative Session by the Chair of the Committee on Education at the request of the Department of Education, seeks to amend and repeal critical provisions pertaining to the State Library and the State Library Board; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1041 proposes to significantly reduce the responsibilities of the State Library, including repealing statutory provisions for collecting, preserving, and distributing state publications, as well as maintaining networks to ensure public access to library resources across South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the bill eliminates the State Library Board, which has served as the policy-making body for the State Library, and further repeals provisions mandating the State Library's role in supporting the Legislature, state employees, and special state-supported schools; and

WHEREAS, the State Library's current functions, including digitizing and preserving invaluable state publications such as Legislative Manuals (Blue Books), Supreme Court Reports, Attorney General Reports, and historical government documents, are essential to South Dakota's history, civic education, and governmental transparency; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation threatens to dismantle the State Library's longstanding role as a repository of public knowledge, undermining the accessibility of vital resources for students, researchers, state employees, and citizens of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of these critical library services contradicts the policy stated in South Dakota Codified Law § 14-1-40, which recognizes the necessity of library services as a function of government to improve the quality of life and support informed decision-making at all levels;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Lead, South Dakota:

1. The City of Lead strongly opposes House Bill 1041 and any efforts to reduce or eliminate the responsibilities and functions of the South Dakota State Library.
2. The City of Lead recognizes the South Dakota State Library as an essential institution for preserving and providing open access to government records, historical documents, and informational resources for the benefit of all South Dakotans.
3. The City of Lead calls upon the South Dakota Legislature, the Governor, and other state leaders to uphold the mission of the State Library by rejecting House Bill 1041 and ensuring continued funding and support for its full scope of responsibilities.
4. The City of Lead urges municipalities, counties, schools, libraries, and citizens across South Dakota to join in advocating for the preservation of the State Library and its indispensable services.
5. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the South Dakota State Legislature, the Governor of South Dakota, and the South Dakota Library Association to formally express the City of Lead's opposition to House Bill 1041.

Those voting aye:

Those voting nay:

Motion carried.

Dated this 3rd day, of February 2025

CITY OF LEAD:

ATTEST:

Ron Everett, Mayor

Billie Jo Inhofer, Finance Officer

(SEAL)