

South Dakota – Official Supporter Letter

South Dakota Department of Education

800 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Members of the South Dakota Board of Education,

I am writing as a supporter of the Age of Design initiative. As science continues to advance, it has become increasingly clear that many current textbooks no longer reflect the most up-to-date scientific discoveries regarding the origin and complexity of life.

New evidence in molecular biology, genetics, biochemistry, and information science shows that living systems are far more structured and information-rich than earlier theories predicted. Much of this research was conducted long after the textbook frameworks still used in classrooms were created.

This is not about removing evolution or adding religion. It is about ensuring that students are taught accurate, modern scientific facts — not outdated assumptions from decades past.

I respectfully urge the South Dakota Board of Education to:

1. Review and update current science standards involving the origin of life
2. Ensure that modern empirical discoveries are reflected in updated textbooks
3. Encourage critical thinking by presenting the full range of scientific evidence
4. Allow supplemental materials that reflect discoveries made through modern imaging, DNA sequencing, and molecular analysis

Our students deserve to learn what science has truly uncovered — not simply what older theories predicted.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and commitment to the students of South Dakota. I respectfully request that you consider updating the curriculum to reflect the scientific discoveries of the modern age.

Sincerely,