

2021 South Dakota Legislature
**House Concurrent Resolution
6014**

AMENDMENT HCR6014F FOR THE INTRODUCED BILL

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, ~~Acknowledging survivors of~~ to acknowledge and**
2 **honor the Native American children who were survivors of the boarding**
3 **schools in this state.**

4 ~~WHEREAS, this Legislature hears the voice of the Native American boarding school~~
5 ~~survivors and desires to recognize the atrocities caused by Native American boarding schools~~
6 ~~in South Dakota in the hope that it will aid in the journey towards healing for all:~~

7 ~~WHEREAS, this Legislature recognizes the history of Native American boarding schools in~~
8 ~~the United States and this state, wherein Native American children were often sent far away~~
9 ~~from their families and communities involuntarily, which left them particularly vulnerable and~~
10 ~~dependent upon the boarding school system to protect them from harm; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, these children observed and suffered physical, emotional, cultural, spiritual,~~
12 ~~psychological, and sexual abuse, and punishment by physical restraints, beatings, and~~
13 ~~isolation in inhospitable surroundings; and~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, these children, their children, and now their grandchildren and great-~~
15 ~~grandchildren, bear the burden of the legacy of the boarding schools and the policies that~~
16 ~~established and sustained those schools, where the children suffered trauma that has gone~~
17 ~~unrecognized and unresolved, and has been passed onto each subsequent generation; and~~

18 ~~WHEREAS, this historical and inter-generational trauma continues to devastate,~~
19 ~~undermine, and negatively impact Native American individuals, families, and communities;~~
20 ~~and~~

21 ~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Sixth~~
22 ~~Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the survivors of~~

1 ~~Native American boarding schools along with their families and communities are hereby~~
2 ~~acknowledged; and~~

3 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature hereby declares February 5, 2022, as a~~
4 ~~day to recognize the atrocities and trauma that have been endured by the survivors, their~~
5 ~~families, and their communities and to celebrate their courage, strength, and resiliency.~~

6 ~~WHEREAS, beginning in the latter part of the nineteenth century, Native American children~~
7 ~~were often involuntarily sent to boarding schools far away from their families and~~
8 ~~communities; and~~

9 ~~WHEREAS, these vulnerable children observed and suffered physical, emotional,~~
10 ~~psychological, and sexual abuse; were forced to deny or abandon their cultural heritage and~~
11 ~~relinquish their spirituality; and were often punished by being physically restrained, beaten,~~
12 ~~and isolated in inhospitable surroundings; and~~

13 ~~WHEREAS, these children, their children, and now their grandchildren and great~~
14 ~~grandchildren, bear the devastating legacy of the boarding school era and of the assimilation~~
15 ~~policies that established and sustained the boarding schools; and~~

16 ~~WHEREAS, this historical, intergenerational, and often unrecognized trauma continues to~~
17 ~~undermine and negatively impact Native American individuals, families, and communities;~~

18 ~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Sixth~~
19 ~~Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that this Legislature~~
20 ~~hears the voice of each Native American who survived the brutality of the boarding schools~~
21 ~~and acknowledges the atrocities that occurred; and~~

22 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Legislature solemnly recognizes the individual and~~
23 ~~collective suffering that so many endured as a result of policies to place and keep Native~~
24 ~~American children in the boarding schools; honors the survivors, their families, and their~~
25 ~~communities; and celebrates the courage, strength, and resiliency of the survivors.~~