



2021 South Dakota Legislature

House Commemoration 8012

Introduced by: **Representative Keintz**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, To honor and remember Orris "Orrie" Swayze**
 2 **for his dedicated service to his family and the state.**

3 WHEREAS, Orrie Swayze was born in Graceville, Minnesota, on November 2, 1943. After
 4 high school, Orris attended South Dakota State University and graduated with a Bachelor's
 5 Degree in Chemistry and then became a son of South Dakota; and

6 WHEREAS, Orrie served his country as a member of the Reserve Officer Training Corps,
 7 and after graduation from college, enlisted in the United States Air Force, flying 132 combat
 8 missions during the Vietnam War and earning the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying
 9 Cross; and

10 WHEREAS, after retiring from the military, Orrie became a farmer and rancher, beginning
 11 his farming career with his brother Mick; and

12 WHEREAS, Orrie was the proud husband to Kathleen Kempter BlueDog and the proud
 13 father of three children: Kristi, Brandy, and Patrick. Orrie was also blessed with eight
 14 grandchildren whom he loved dearly: Justin Hendricks, Jeremy Hendricks, James Late, Connor
 15 Late, Daniel Late, Kinley Swayze, Blaze Swayze, and Oaklee Swayze; and

16 WHEREAS, Orrie's other great passion was ethanol, being instrumental in promoting the
 17 development of the ethanol industry in South Dakota during the last four decades; and

18 WHEREAS, Orrie worked tirelessly with politicians like Governor Janklow, Tom Daschle,
 19 and the South Dakota Legislature to get approval for the pipeline tax to support ethanol,
 20 install ethanol blender pumps, and encourage the use of ethanol and ethanol blends to protect
 21 our environment and support the farm economy; and

22 WHEREAS, Orrie also belonged to many organizations, including starting the South Dakota
 23 Corn Growers Association and Corn Council as the first vice president and later president,

1 while also being a member of the American Coalition of Ethanol, South Dakota Farmer's Union,
2 the VFW, the American Legion, and the VVA:

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Sixth Legislature of the State
4 of South Dakota, that the Legislature extends condolences to his family and honors Orrie
5 Swayze for his dedication to his family, the ethanol industry, and our great state.