



2022 South Dakota Legislature

House Commemoration 8017

Introduced by: **Representative Pourier**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring the life and service of Vietnam veteran**
 2 **Thomas Bad Heart Bull.**

3 WHEREAS, Thomas Bad Heart Bull, a member of the Oglala Lakota Nation, enlisted in the
 4 United States Army on September 30, 1966, and served two tours of duty in the Vietnam
 5 War. Mr. Bad Heart Bull was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade for his first tour and the
 6 82nd Airborne Division for his second tour as a paratrooper. He is the recipient of a Purple
 7 Heart, Bronze Star, and multiple other medals for his service in Vietnam; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Bad Heart Bull was born and raised in Oglala, South Dakota on the Pine
 9 Ridge Indian Reservation and is the son of Seth and Veronica Bad Heart Bull. He graduated
 10 from the Oglala Community High School and continued his education at Haskell Institute, now
 11 known as Haskell Indian Nations University, in Lawrence, Kansas. Mr. Bad Heart Bull obtained
 12 a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of South Dakota and led a
 13 successful career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Bad Heart Bull is a first language Lakota speaker and works to mentor and
 15 support the next generation of Native Americans in communities throughout South Dakota.
 16 He remains active in Lakota cultural and ceremonial practices and shares his knowledge with
 17 family, friends, and community:

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Seventh Legislature of the
 19 State of South Dakota, Thomas Bad Heart Bull's honorable life and service both to the United
 20 States and the great state of South Dakota.