
South Dakota Legislature



Senate Commemoration 824

Introduced by: **Senators** Foster, Duhamel, Nesiba, V. J. Smith, and Wiik and **Representatives** Bordeaux, Perry, and Pourier

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring and Commending the Lakota Nation Invitational for its 45 years of success and its unique ability to showcase Native youth and their exceptional talents.

WHEREAS, the Lakota Nation Invitational was founded by Bryan Brewer and Chuck Cuny from the Pine Ridge Reservation, as a way to show Native pride at a time when tensions were high; and

WHEREAS, native youth are given the ability to display their skills in sports such as basketball, volleyball, wrestling, golf, cheerleading, cross country, and track & field. The Invitational has also expanded its appeal by hosting academic events; and

WHEREAS, although born out of racism, the outcome and success of this multi-sport tournament has proven Native ability to overcome and be resilient. It gives Native youth the chance to honor their families, schools, and respected nations. The vision of Mssrs. Brewer and Cuny for the Lakota Nation Invitational is to be the spirit of friendship and reconciliation for both Natives and non-Natives:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Seventh Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Lakota Nation Invitational's ability to hold such a spectacular event that brings together Natives and non-Natives from all over the country to meet and compete in the great state of South Dakota.

