



2023 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Commemoration 802

Introduced by: **Senator Reed** and **Representatives Reimer, Bartels, and Venhuizen**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Celebrating the South Dakota State University**
 2 **Jackrabbit football team winning the NCAA Division I Football Championship**
 3 **Subdivision National Championship.**

4 WHEREAS, the first season of football at South Dakota State University was 1889, and in
 5 the past one hundred and twenty-four seasons of football, they compiled a 644-475-38 overall
 6 record, won eighteen conference titles, and made thirteen NCAA postseason appearances;
 7 and

8 WHEREAS, under head coach John Stiegelmeier, and his coaching and administrative staff,
 9 the Jackrabbits hold a 199-112 record and have won four conference championships, with
 10 twelve appearances in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoffs; and

11 WHEREAS, during the 2022-2023 season, the Jackrabbits had a fourteen-game winning
 12 streak and their first outright Missouri Valley Football Conference championship after going
 13 undefeated with a record of 8-0 in league play, were ranked number one in the nation in the
 14 FCS, and outscored the opposition by a combined 168-66 in four FCS playoff games; and

15 WHEREAS, four players were named to All-American teams, fifteen players were honored
 16 on the All-Missouri Valley Football Conference squad, and the team's combined GPA was 3.12;
 17 and

18 WHEREAS, on January 8, 2023, the South Dakota State University Jackrabbit Football
 19 Team beat the defending champion North Dakota State University Bison 45-21 in the national
 20 title game, before a crowd of eighteen thousand and twenty-three fans at Toyota Stadium in
 21 Frisco, Texas:

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Eighth Legislature of the State
 23 of South Dakota, that Coach John Stiegelmeier and the South Dakota State University

- 1 Jackrabbit football team displayed exemplary teamwork, leadership, and commitment in
- 2 winning the NCAA Division I FCS National Championship. GO BIG! GO BLUE! GO JACKS!