



2023 South Dakota Legislature

House Commemoration 8006

Introduced by: **Representative Reisch**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Recognizing the De Smet Bulldogs as the 2021**
2 **and 2022 boys basketball Class B state champions.**

3 WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 season marked the beginning of an impressive legacy for the
4 De Smet Bulldogs basketball team under coach Jeff Gruenhagen. Sporting a strong defense,
5 the team held their opponents to an average of 40 points per game, entering the Class B
6 state tournament with a record of 22 wins and just one loss. The Bulldogs powered their way
7 to the championship, ultimately defeating Aberdeen Christian 59-43; and

8 WHEREAS, the De Smet boys basketball team entered the 2021-2022 season as defending
9 state champions. Despite increased pressure on the team and fans, the Bulldogs won their
10 first two games of the state tournament by scores of 60-28 and 67-45, and ultimately reached
11 the championship game against a formidable Lower Brule team. After struggling initially
12 during the first half of the game, the Bulldogs made a strong comeback, strategically utilizing
13 their offensive height advantage to win the final 49-26, successfully defending their
14 championship crown:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Eighth Legislature of the State
16 of South Dakota, that the Legislature celebrates the De Smet boys basketball team and
17 recognizes their exemplary accomplishment of back-to-back state championship titles.