



2024 South Dakota Legislature

House Commemoration 8002

Introduced by: **Representative Nelson**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Celebrating the LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit**
2 **community in South Dakota.**

3 WHEREAS, in South Dakota, approximately 25,000 adults, or 3.5 percent of the
4 population, identify as LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit. Numerous official Pride festivals are held
5 annually that shed light on this community's resilience, ranging from parades and fairs to
6 daily events and educational courses for area businesses and organizations; and

7 WHEREAS, the LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit community proudly shows its strength every day
8 by living in truth and combatting uncertainty. The many accomplishments and milestones of
9 the state's LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit community are celebrated while acknowledging the
10 remaining work to be done in the pursuit of true equality for all; and

11 WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit organizations within the state work to ensure that
12 legal, law enforcement, health care, education, and employment opportunities are equally
13 and equitably afforded to all, regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, or race. The
14 leadership of these organizations working statewide to educate and create positive change
15 for their fellow South Dakotans is commended. The growth of these local organizations should
16 serve as a beacon of hope for communities nationwide;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Ninth Legislature of the State
18 of South Dakota, that the LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit community is recognized for its collective
19 efforts to secure true equality for all.