



## 2024 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Commemoration 805

Introduced by: **Senators** Kolbeck (Steve), Crabtree, Hoffman, Pischke, Schoenbeck, and Zikmund and **Representatives** Reisch, Sjaarda, Tordsen, Venhuizen, and Weisgram

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring and remembering the life of Brandon**  
2 **Valley Middle School student Spencer Roger Thorsland.**

3 WHEREAS, Spencer Roger Thorsland, one of the most courageous young men the city of  
4 Brandon and the state of South Dakota has ever been privileged to know, passed away  
5 tragically after battling cancer for more than three years; and

6 WHEREAS, Spencer Thorsland, often referred to affectionately as "Doctor Spencer," had  
7 a contagious smile and a gift-giving heart, was funny and goofy but also wise and emotionally  
8 intelligent beyond his years; and

9 WHEREAS, Spencer Thorsland was a determined young man, often enduring high levels  
10 of discomfort before admitting that he wanted or needed help; and

11 WHEREAS, Spencer Thorsland, in his own words, anticipated being "pain free" and  
12 experiencing peace in a place that is "Like earth, the grass is green, the trees are all green  
13 and daylight forever, in a way it's almost peaceful thinking about it";

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Ninth Legislature of the State  
15 of South Dakota, that Spencer Roger Thorsland is worthy of honor for his courageous fight,  
16 his uplifting spirit, and his wisdom, and the Legislature extends its gratitude and condolences  
17 to his family.