



## 2025 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Commemoration 801

Introduced by: **Senator Deibert**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Recognizing and expressing gratitude to South**  
 2 **Dakota Wildland Fire and Black Hills volunteer fire departments for their**  
 3 **quick response and cooperation on Black Hills wildfires.**

4 WHEREAS, South Dakota Wildland Fire, an agency of the Department of Public Safety,  
 5 was created on July 1, 2001, to work closely with federal agencies, volunteer and municipal  
 6 fire departments, other states, and South Dakota residents, to deliver fire management  
 7 services within the state and in other states, as part of a national fire management system;  
 8 and

9 WHEREAS, Wildland Fire employs engine personnel, hand crews, fuel mitigation  
 10 technicians, administrative support, and additional seasonal firefighters to fulfill its mission of  
 11 preventing, mitigating, and suppressing wildfires; and

12 WHEREAS, the volunteer firefighters in the Black Hills area sacrifice time with their loved  
 13 ones to train and prepare each year for fire season; and

14 WHEREAS, South Dakota Wildland Fire provides solid and consistent leadership to the  
 15 numerous volunteer fire departments in and around the Black Hills to protect people and  
 16 property; and

17 WHEREAS, South Dakota Wildland Fire and volunteer fire departments responded to two  
 18 hundred and fifty-four fires in the Black Hills area in 2024, and their quick action kept these  
 19 fires small, burning only two thousand nine hundred sixty-five acres; and

20 WHEREAS, this quick response to fires would not be possible without Black Hills volunteer  
 21 firefighters, their cooperative spirit, and their commitment to protecting their friends and  
 22 neighbors;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the One Hundredth Legislature of the State  
 24 of South Dakota, that South Dakota Wildland Fire and the Black Hills volunteer firefighters

- 1 consistently exhibit cooperation, commitment, and courage in protecting South Dakota's
- 2 residents, visitors, livelihoods, and natural treasures.