



2026 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Resolution 701

Introduced by: **Senator Reed**

1 **A RESOLUTION recognizing the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of**
2 **Independence.**

3 WHEREAS, July 4, 2026, will signify 250 years since the founding fathers voted to finalize
4 the text of the Declaration of Independence, which established the sovereignty of the original
5 thirteen colonies; and

6 WHEREAS, indigenous nations, generations of immigrants, civil rights advocates, and
7 countless others have worked tirelessly to promote and protect freedom and justice for all,
8 and to create, based on those principles, the United States we recognize today; and

9 WHEREAS, the tribal nations within this state's borders, as well as this state's pioneer
10 heritage, agricultural innovations, and its resilient civil spirit contributed to the growth of this
11 incredible nation and will continue to support the United States of America for many years yet
12 to come; and

13 WHEREAS, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence presents numerous
14 opportunities to educate all Americans about our nation, to celebrate our republican
15 institutions, and to renew a shared commitment to ensuring a resilient republic for all;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the One Hundred First Legislature
17 of the State of South Dakota, that the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence
18 be recognized as a time to reflect upon the founding principles of liberty, democracy, and
19 equality; to celebrate the profound achievements of our first 250 years; and to prepare for
20 all that this great nation has yet to experience during the next 250 years.