



## 2026 South Dakota Legislature

# House Commemoration 8023

Introduced by: **Representative** Pourier

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION honoring the legacy and strength of**  
 2 **grandmothers in this state.**

3 WHEREAS, grandmothers form the quiet backbone of communities, providing an example  
 4 of love, wisdom, and resilience for generations; and

5 WHEREAS, grandmothers are the bedrock of families, often stepping in as caregivers,  
 6 providers, and nurturers when circumstances demand, raising grandchildren with the same  
 7 devotion they gave their own children; and

8 WHEREAS, in Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota traditions, grandmothers, known as unci,  
 9 embody sacred authority as wisdom keepers, ceremonial leaders, and decision-makers whose  
 10 guidance ensures cultural continuity, language preservation, and the passing of ancestral  
 11 teachings to the sacred children; and

12 WHEREAS, grandmothers of all backgrounds in this state sacrifice daily to feed, clothe,  
 13 educate, and protect their families, volunteering in schools, churches, and tribal programs  
 14 while modeling hard work, thrift, forgiveness, and the grit required to thrive on the farm,  
 15 ranch, reservation, or city block; and

16 WHEREAS, grandmothers teach by example the values of hospitality, humility, prayer,  
 17 and perseverance, standing firm against hardship, addiction, loss, or division, while lifting  
 18 others with encouragement and steadfast faith; and

19 WHEREAS, the legacy of grandmothers endures in the laughter of grandchildren, the  
 20 strength of great-grandchildren, and the moral compass of communities they shaped through  
 21 decades of faithful service, often without thanks or acclaim;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the One Hundred First Legislature of the  
 23 State of South Dakota, that grandmothers everywhere deserve honor as the backbone of

- 1 families, the bedrock of kinship groups, and the enduring example of strength, sacrifice, and
- 2 sacred love that defines the spirit of South Dakota.