
South Dakota Legislature



Senate Commemoration 816

Introduced by: **Senators** Foster, Duhamel, and Perry and **Representatives** Emery, Moore, Muckey, Pourier, and Wittman

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION celebrating Generations Indigenous Ways and its impact.

WHEREAS, Generations Indigenous Ways is a community-based Native nonprofit organization located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, dedicated to empowering American Indian youth by blending Lakota cultural knowledge with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education through indigenous sciences; and

WHEREAS, Generations Indigenous Ways provides year-round programming, including seasonal indigenous science camps, afterschool activities, community science seminars, and food sustainability initiatives, which foster leadership, cultural pride, environmental stewardship, and meaningful life skills among youth of the Seven Oceti Šakówin and beyond; and

WHEREAS, this organization's curriculum and activities honor Oglala Lakota values and way of life, helping youth forge deep connections with their culture, the natural world, and their communities; and

WHEREAS, by maintaining community gardens, traditional food education, food sovereignty programming, elder support initiatives, and multi-sensory learning experiences rooted in indigenous knowledge, Generations Indigenous Ways uplifts families and preserves cultural traditions for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the work of Generations Indigenous Ways not only enriches the lives of participating youth but also strengthens the cultural fabric of this state, contributing to educational excellence, cultural preservation, and community wellbeing across tribal and non-tribal communities alike;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the One Hundred First Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that Generations Indigenous Ways is to be commended for its visionary leadership, tireless dedication, and lasting contributions to the education, cultural continuity, and empowerment of our Lakota youth.

