

# State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

970Y0415

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Introduced by: Senators Heinert, Ewing, Frerichs, Greenfield (Brock), Haverly, Killer, Langer, Nesiba, Peters, Stalzer, Sutton, and Tidemann and Representatives May, Beal, Bordeaux, Carson, Conzet, Livermont, Otten (Herman), Schaefer, Schoenfish, Soli, Tieszen, and Wismer

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Endorsing the induction of Howard Hunter, Sr. into the Pro  
2 Rodeo Hall of Fame.

3 WHEREAS, Howard Hunter Sr., one of nine children, was born February 4, 1951, to  
4 Aloysius and Ethelyn Hunter and raised on the Oglala Lakota Reservation of South Dakota; and

5 WHEREAS, after his first rodeo at age eleven in Gordon, Nebraska, Howard was destined  
6 to become one of South Dakota's greatest rodeo cowboys; and

7 WHEREAS, Hunter possessed the pure athleticism and determination to excel and win the  
8 all-around title and team trophy for Oglala Community School in 1969 as the school's only entry  
9 at the South Dakota state highschool finals; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1971 he took the South Dakota Rodeo Association (SDRA) year-end all-  
11 around cowboy runner-up honors as well as the saddle bronc title at the SDRA Finals; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1972 Howard's entry to the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association was  
13 supported by the three-time world saddle bronc champion Shawn Davis and South Dakota rodeo  
14 cowboy and rancher Charlie Colombe; and



1       WHEREAS, as a pro saddle bronc rider, Howard Hunter qualified for many prestigious  
2 events such as the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in 1976, 1979, and 1980; and

3       WHEREAS, with extraordinary success Hunter won events at Cheyenne Frontier Days; the  
4 Denver Stock Show; San Antonio and El Paso, Texas Stock Shows; Phoenix, Arizona; North  
5 Platte and Burwell, Nebraska; Wyoming State Fair; Guymon, Oklahoma; Mississippi's Dixie  
6 National; Old Fort Smith Days; Ogden, Utah Pioneer Days; Ellensburg, Washington; and the  
7 Texas State Fair in Dallas; and

8       WHEREAS, the five-time Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association Badlands circuit  
9 qualifier won two circuit championships in 1976 and 1982; and

10       WHEREAS, Hunter captured eleven Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association saddle bronc  
11 championships on his way to fourteen qualifications to the Indian National Finals Rodeo where  
12 he claimed four world championships in 1980, 1987, 1988, and 1990; and

13       WHEREAS, Hunter's rodeo career came to a tragic and sudden end, at age 44, when he fell  
14 with a bucking horse at the 1995 Crow Fair Indian Rodeo, sustaining severe head injuries and  
15 confining him to a wheel chair for the rest of his life; and

16       WHEREAS, Howard Hunter, Sr. passed away on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2015, at his Kyle,  
17 South Dakota ranch home, surrounded by his life-long rodeo fans, including his wife, Annie;  
18 his children, Howard, Jr. and Stacie; and his many relatives and friends; and

19       WHEREAS, given his larger-than-life legacy, both in and out of the rodeo arena, the Oglala  
20 Lakota-descendant cowboy was inducted into the South Dakota Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2001  
21 and the Indian National Finals Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2012:

22       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninety-Second Legislature  
23 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, the South Dakota  
24 Legislature heartily and without reservation endorses the induction of Howard Hunter, Sr. into

1 the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, due to his talent, superb skill, and integrity, the induction  
3 of Howard Hunter Sr. into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame would honor a South Dakota Plains  
4 ranch lifestyle, a set of solid values, and a life well lived that are as relevant today as at any time  
5 in the history of our nation; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through the nomination of Howard Hunter, Sr., the  
7 Selection Committee of the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame has the opportunity to honor one of the  
8 most talented and deserving bronc riders that ever measured a bronc rein or nodded for a gate.