

HOUSE COMMEMORATION NO. 1002

Introduced by: Representatives Rhoden, Bartling, Beal, Brunner, DiSanto, Goodwin, Haggard, Hawley, Howard, Latterell, Lesmeister, Lust, Mickelson, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Tieszen, and Turbiville and Senators Cammack, Ewing, Haverly, Jensen (Phil), and Partridge

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Commending the South Dakota Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 196th Regiment, Regional Training Institute (RTI) on training hundreds of officer candidates from South Dakota and soldiers across the nation.

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Army National Guard's 196th RTI, located at Fort Meade, South Dakota, trains hundreds of soldiers from South Dakota and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 196th RTI is one of only two battalions in the United States to conduct all three phases of the Officer Candidate School (OCS); and

WHEREAS, all three phases of the accelerated OCS program are conducted annually for eight weeks during June and July; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, in a competition with California, Colorado, and Montana, the 1st Battalion, 196th RTI was awarded the honor of conducting a nationally accredited OCS program; and

WHEREAS, Army National Guard units from across the United States send their soldiers to South Dakota to be trained as commissioned Army National Guard officers; and

WHEREAS, the 196th RTI is nationally recognized as an institute of excellence by the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Second Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the South Dakota Legislature express respect, commendation, and congratulations to the South Dakota Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 196th RTI for its excellence



in training Army National Guard soldiers from across the United States and recognizes the 1st Battalion, 196th RTI for its outstanding service to the great State of South Dakota and the United States of America.