

SENATE COMMEMORATION NO. 21

Introduced by: Senators Maher, Ewing, Greenfield (Brock), and Langer and Representatives Marty, Ahlers, Bordeaux, Brunner, Campbell, Clark, DiSanto, Frye-Mueller, Goodwin, Greenfield (Lana), Howard, Jamison, Jensen (Kevin), Johns, Johnson, Kaiser, Kettwig, Latterell, Lesmeister, Livermont, McCleerey, Mickelson, Mills, Peterson (Sue), Pischke, Reed, Rozum, Schaefer, Schoenfish, Soli, Steinhauer, Tulson, Turbiville, and Willadsen

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Posthumously honoring the life, character, and achievements of Bob Hanson.

WHEREAS, Bob Hanson grew up and studied in South Dakota before serving in World War II with the 15th Horse Cavalry at Ft. Riley, Kansas, riding and training horses, and then serving with the 15th Mechanized Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in France, where his armored vehicle came under artillery fire, and he was severely burned and wounded; and

WHEREAS, after being captured and treated for crippling injuries by German troops, Hanson spent nine months as a prisoner of war before returning to the United States and eventually being awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal, the highest honor bestowed in France, on June 19, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Bob Hanson spent the remainder of his days taking care of his wife Donna and their three sons; displaying his blacksmith skills in his shop in Bison, South Dakota; guiding prairie dog hunters; raising and training horses; hunting; serving as an EMT and CPR instructor; and inspiring everyone he encountered with his optimism and work ethic; and

WHEREAS, we pray that our Heavenly Father may ease the anguish of his family's and friends' grief and leave them only the cherished memory of Bob Hanson, a war hero and hardworking man of the land:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Second Legislature of the



State of South Dakota, that the Legislature posthumously honors, commends, and remembers Bob Hanson for his service to the people of South Dakota and the United States of America. In token of South Dakota's common perpetual grief at his loss, this commemoration is enrolled and appropriately immortalized for posterity.