



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Commemoration 8003

Introduced by: **Representatives** St John, Bordeaux, Haugaard, and Pourier and **Senators** Foster, Heinert, Phil Jensen, Russell, and Youngberg at the request of the Committee on State-Tribal Relations

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Recognizing the thirtieth anniversary of Native**
 2 **American Day.**

3 WHEREAS, Governor George S. Mickelson, with the advice and consent of the state's tribal
 4 leaders, declared 1990 as a year of reconciliation in South Dakota; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1990 the state of South Dakota was beginning its second century as a state;
 6 and

7 WHEREAS, Governor Mickelson recognized that the time of statehood was a sad time for
 8 Native Americans because two tragic events, the killing of Sitting Bull and the Wounded Knee
 9 massacre, occurred just thirteen months after South Dakota became a state; and

10 WHEREAS, strife between Indian and non-Indian cultures in South Dakota has, since
 11 statehood, been of grave concern and continues to be of grave concern; and

12 WHEREAS, any improvement in cultural understanding in the past can be attributed to the
 13 work of the Indian and non-Indian people of South Dakota who have striven to understand
 14 our differences and to educate those of us who have grown up together but who have never
 15 made the effort to bridge the cultural gap; and

16 WHEREAS, a statewide effort to develop trust and respect between Indians and non-
 17 Indians can, and must, include participation from the private and the public sector, from
 18 churches and church associations, from tribal and state governments, and from individuals,
 19 communities, and community organizations; and

20 WHEREAS, mutuality of interest provides a sound basis for constructive change, given a
 21 shared commitment to achieving our goals of equal opportunity, social justice, and economic
 22 prosperity; and

1 WHEREAS, by celebrating our cultural differences and drawing on those differences for the
2 betterment of all, we can create a new respect among our citizens; and

3 WHEREAS, Governor Mickelson in his proclamation called for our citizens, both Indian and
4 non-Indian to look for every opportunity to lay aside our fears and mistrust, to build
5 friendships, to join together and take part in our shared cultural activities, to learn about one
6 another, to have fun with one another, and to begin a process of mutual respect and
7 understanding; and

8 WHEREAS, a Native American Day parade will be held in Pierre on Monday, October 12,
9 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, events like the Native American Day parade are an opportunity for tribes to
11 take control of their history by telling their own story;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Fifth Legislature of the State
13 of South Dakota, that the Legislature recognizes the thirtieth anniversary of Native American
14 Day and invites everyone to attend the Native American Day parade in Pierre on Monday,
15 October 12, 2020.