



2022 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Commemoration 824

Introduced by: **Senator Foster**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring and Commending the Lakota Nation**
2 **Invitational for its 45 years of success and its unique ability to showcase**
3 **Native youth and their exceptional talents.**

4 WHEREAS, the Lakota Nation Invitational was founded by Bryan Brewer and Chuck Cuny
5 from the Pine Ridge Reservation, as a way to show Native pride at a time when tensions were
6 high; and

7 WHEREAS, native youth are given the ability to display their skills in sports such as
8 basketball, volleyball, wrestling, golf, cheerleading, cross country, and track & field. The
9 Invitational has also expanded its appeal by hosting academic events; and

10 WHEREAS, although born out of racism, the outcome and success of this multi-sport
11 tournament has proven Native ability to overcome and be resilient. It gives Native youth the
12 chance to honor their families, schools, and respected nations. The vision of Mssrs. Brewer
13 and Cuny for the Lakota Nation Invitational is to be the spirit of friendship and reconciliation
14 for both Natives and non-Natives;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Seventh Legislature of the
16 State of South Dakota, the Lakota Nation Invitational's ability to hold such a spectacular event
17 that brings together Natives and non-Natives from all over the country to meet and compete
18 in the great state of South Dakota.