

South Dakota Legislature



House Commemoration 8016

Introduced by: **Representatives** Bahmuller, Arlint, Auch, Aylward, Bartels, Blare, Callies, Chaffee, Chase, DeGroot, Deutsch, Drury, Duba, Emery, Fitzgerald, Gross, Hansen, Heermann, Jamison, Jensen (Phil), Kassin, Koth, Krohmer, Kull, Ladner, Lems, Lesmeister, Massie, May, Mills, Moore, Mortenson, Mulder, Nelson, Perry, Peterson (Drew), Peterson (Sue), Pinnow, Randolph, Rehfeldt, Reimer, Reisch, Sauder, Schaeffbauer, Schneider, Shorma, Sjaarda, Soye, Stevens, Teunissen, Venhuizen, Wangsness, Weisgram, and Wittman and **Senators** Beal, Bolin, Bordeaux, Crabtree, Duhamel, Foster, Frye-Mueller, Kolbeck (Jack), Kolbeck (Steve), Nesiba, Otten (Herman), Reed, Schoenfish, Stalzer, Wiik, and Zikmund

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring the life of Kenneth Michael Prorok.

WHEREAS, Kenneth (Ken) Michael Prorok, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, passed away on Friday, February 2, 2024, while serving in the line of duty as Chief Deputy for the Moody County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Ken was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, played collegiate football, soccer, and baseball, graduated from Dakota State University, and held a Master's degree from Phoenix University; and

WHEREAS, after marrying the love of his life, Renee Graff, Ken became a stepfather to Brooke and Taylor, a father to Joseph David (JD), and a father-figure and role model to so many of the young players he coached in baseball, football, softball, and volleyball; and

WHEREAS, Ken epitomized courage, compassion, family values, integrity, professionalism, and selflessness, and despite acknowledging the dangers inherent in law enforcement, never faltered in his commitment to protecting and serving his community; and

WHEREAS, with his strong, commanding, and yet humble presence, Ken was always the first to respond to a crisis, lend a hand, or offer a shoulder to lean on;

WHEREAS, Ken always focused on bettering the lives of all with whom he crossed paths, which by itself speaks volumes about his character and his dedication to his family, to his community, and ultimately, to the profession for which he gave his life:

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Ninth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that Kenneth Michael Prorok has earned the greatest respect for the life he led and the greatest gratitude for his ultimate sacrifice, and for that, deepest condolences are extended to all who knew him, worked with him, played for him, and loved him.

