

SENATE COMMEMORATION NO. 20

Introduced by: Senators Rhoden and Maher and Representatives Brunner, Olson (Betty), and Wink

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce.

WHEREAS, in 1911 a group of progressive business and professional people residing in the city of Belle Fourche saw the rights and benefits of banding together in an official organization to promote the commercial, civic, and general interests of their community and trade area; and

WHEREAS, the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce has been a strength and support of the economic community not only for Belle Fourche and Butte County, but also for an extended agricultural community in the Tri-State area; and

WHEREAS, the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce has taken leadership in promotion and development of the Black Hills Roundup and the business and professional community have long been supporters of commercial, sports, civic, agricultural, and youth events; and

WHEREAS, since 1959, Belle Fourche has been named the closest city to the geographical center of the United States and since 2007, the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce led the way to establishment of a significant South Dakota granite monument of national recognition of the city as the official geographic center of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce anchors the Center of the Nation Visitor Center that includes the Center of the Nation monument park, Tri-State Museum, and historic Johnny Spaulding cabin, and is the northwestern gateway to the Black Hills, prairies, and other wonders of South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Eighty-sixth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce be commended for its leadership



and commitment to its community, its state, and its region and on April 8, 2011, the people of Belle Fourche shall commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of its community's chamber of commerce located at the beautiful fork of three rivers where the Black Hills meet the rangeland and prairies.