



2021 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Commemoration 814

Introduced by: **Senator Schoenbeck**

1 **A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, To honor and remember Orris "Orrie" Swayze**
2 **for his dedicated service to his family and the state.**

3 WHEREAS, Orrie Swayze was born in Graceville, Minnesota, on November 2, 1943. After
4 high school, Orris attended South Dakota State University and graduated with a Bachelor's
5 Degree in Chemistry and then became a son of South Dakota; and

6 WHEREAS, Orrie served his country as a member of the Reserve Officer Training Corps,
7 and after graduation from college, enlisted in the United States Air Force; and

8 WHEREAS, after retiring from the military, Orrie became a farmer and rancher, beginning
9 his farming career with his brother Mick; and

10 WHEREAS, Orrie was the proud husband to Kathleen Kempter BlueDog and the proud
11 father of three children: Kristi, Brandy, and Patrick. Orrie was also blessed with eight
12 grandchildren whom he loved dearly: Justin Hendricks, Jeremy Hendricks, James Late, Connor
13 Late, Daniel Late, Kinley Swayze, Blaze Swayze, and Oaklee Swayze; and

14 WHEREAS, Orrie's other great passion was ethanol, being instrumental in promoting the
15 development of the ethanol industry in South Dakota; and

16 WHEREAS, Orrie worked tirelessly with politicians like Governor Janklow, Tom Daschle,
17 and the South Dakota Legislature to get approval for the pipeline tax to support ethanol,
18 install ethanol blender pumps, and encourage the use of ethanol and ethanol blends to protect
19 our environment, and support the farm economy; and

20 WHEREAS, Orrie also belonged to many organizations, including starting the South Dakota
21 Corn Growers Association and Corn Council as the first vice president, while also being a
22 member of the American Coalition of Ethanol, South Dakota Farmer's Union, the VFW, the
23 American Legion, and the VVA:

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Sixth Legislature of the State
2 of South Dakota, that the Legislature extends condolences to his family and honors Orrie
3 Swayze for his dedication to his family, the ethanol industry, our great state.