

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

2 INTRODUCED BY K. MCCARTHY

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA RECOGNIZING THE 138TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORT ROBINSON BREAKOUT AND
6 COMMENDING PARTICIPANTS IN THE ANNUAL FORT ROBINSON MEMORIAL BREAKOUT RUN.

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8 WHEREAS, in 1877, the United States relocated hundreds of Cheyenne to a southern reservation in
9 Oklahoma from which, after being beset by starvation and illness, Chiefs Dull Knife and Little Wolf and their
10 followers escaped in 1878 to return to their homeland in Montana; and

11 WHEREAS, Chief Dull Knife's band was forced to surrender at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, while Chief
12 Little Wolf and his band made it to Fort Keogh near modern day Miles City; and

13 WHEREAS, on the cold winter morning of January 9, 1879, after days of imprisonment without food or
14 water, Chief Dull Knife and more than 100 Cheyenne escaped from the barracks at Fort Robinson to continue
15 their long and dangerous journey back to Montana; and

16 WHEREAS, in returning to their homeland, many Cheyenne sacrificed their lives; and

17 WHEREAS, the annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout Run, held on the anniversary of the Fort
18 Robinson Breakout, honors the spirit of the Cheyenne people, as young runners retrace the historic 400-mile trek
19 through Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana; and

20 WHEREAS, the Memorial Breakout Run gives young members of the Northern Cheyenne tribe a chance
21 to understand their peoples' history of perseverance and strength and to honor the journey and sacrifice of their
22 ancestors; and

23 WHEREAS, the Cheyenne people, who are cherished members of the unique fabric of cultures and
24 history of Montana, have carried on their tradition of dedication and sacrifice through 138 years of unbroken
25 military service to the United States, beginning in 1879 when Chief Little Wolf and his band served as scouts at
26 Fort Keogh and continuing with Cheyenne tribal members serving in every major U.S. conflict since, including
27 in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

28 WHEREAS, the 21st annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout Run begins January 9, 2017, with runners
29 passing through Carter, Powder River, Rosebud, and Bighorn Counties.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 STATE OF MONTANA:

3 That the Montana Legislature recognizes the historical significance of the struggles that led to the Fort
4 Robinson Breakout and commends the young men and women who embrace severe weather, aching bodies,
5 and fatigue to retrace the historic journey of their ancestors during the annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout
6 Run.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the Northern
8 Cheyenne Tribal Council.

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