65th Legislature HJ0005.02

1	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5
2	INTRODUCED BY K. MCCARTHY, J. BACHMEIER, A. CURTIS, J. ECK, J. FLEMING, T. JACOBSON,
3	J. KARJALA, K. KELKER, G. KIPP, R. LYNCH, S. MORIGEAU, R. PEPPERS, C. SCHREINER, B. SMITH,
4	S. WEBBER, J. WINDY BOY, D. ANKNEY, J. GROSS, M. MACDONALD, M. MCNALLY, D. SANDS,
5	J. SMALL, F. SMITH, J. WELBORN, L. WHITFORD
6	
7	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
8	MONTANA RECOGNIZING THE 138TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORT ROBINSON BREAKOUT AND
9	COMMENDING PARTICIPANTS IN THE ANNUAL FORT ROBINSON MEMORIAL BREAKOUT RUN.
10	
11	WHEREAS, in 1877, the United States relocated hundreds of Cheyenne to a southern reservation in
12	Oklahoma from which, after being beset by starvation and illness, Chiefs Dull Knife and Little Wolf and their
13	followers escaped in 1878 to return to their homeland in Montana; and
14	WHEREAS, Chief Dull Knife's band was forced to surrender at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, while Chief
15	Little Wolf and his band made it to Fort Keogh near modern day Miles City; and
16	WHEREAS, on the cold winter morning of January 9, 1879, after days of imprisonment without food or
17	water, Chief Dull Knife and more than 100 Cheyenne escaped from the barracks at Fort Robinson to continue
18	their long and dangerous journey back to Montana; and
19	WHEREAS, in returning to their homeland, many Cheyenne sacrificed their lives; and
20	WHEREAS, the annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout Run, held on the anniversary of the Fort
21	Robinson Breakout, honors the spirit of the Cheyenne people, as young runners retrace the historic 400-mile trek
22	through Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana; and
23	WHEREAS, the Memorial Breakout Run gives young members of the Northern Cheyenne tribe a chance
24	to understand their peoples' history of perseverance and strength and to honor the journey and sacrifice of their
25	ancestors; and
26	WHEREAS, the Cheyenne people, who are cherished members of the unique fabric of cultures and
27	history of Montana, have carried on their tradition of dedication and sacrifice through 138 years of unbroken
28	military service to the United States, beginning in 1879 when Chief Little Wolf and his band served as scouts at
29	Fort Keogh and continuing with Cheyenne tribal members serving in every major U.S. conflict since, including
30	in Iraq and Afghanistan; and



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1	WHEREAS, the 21st annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout Run begins January 9, 2017, with runners
2	passing through Carter, Powder River, Rosebud, and Bighorn Counties.
3	
4	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5	STATE OF MONTANA:
6	That the Montana Legislature recognizes the historical significance of the struggles that led to the Fort
7	Robinson Breakout and commends the young men and women who embrace severe weather, aching bodies,

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council. 11

and fatigue to retrace the historic journey of their ancestors during the annual Fort Robinson Memorial Breakout

12 - END -

8

9

Run.

