

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

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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.

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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

