



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- END -

I hereby certify that the within joint resolution,  
HJ 0005, originated in the House.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

INTRODUCED BY K. MCCARTHY, J. BACHMEIER, A. CURTIS, J. ECK, J. FLEMING, T. JACOBSON,  
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