



WHEREAS, the City of Deadwood, South Dakota, will commemorate and celebrate an extraordinary milestone – its 150th anniversary. Established in 1876 during the Black Hills Gold Rush, Deadwood has played a significant role on American history. The city has captured the imagination of generations with its legendary stories, dynamic culture, and unwavering spirit; and

WHEREAS, Deadwood originated as an illegal settlement on land that had been officially granted to the Lakota people by the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie. Despite these outlaw beginnings, the Deadwood quickly evolved into a bustling frontier community. Gold seekers, entrepreneurs, and notorious characters such as Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane flocked to Deadwood, transforming the city into a symbol of the American West’s promises and perils; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of 150 years, Deadwood has journeyed from a rough-and-tumble mining town to a cherished historic destination. The city is proud of its preserved Historic Main Street, iconic saloons, and annual events to keep the spirit of the Old West alive. Visitors from around the globe travel to Deadwood to witness reenactments, try their luck at casinos, explore museums, and enjoy the scenic beauty of the Black Hills region; and

WHEREAS, Deadwood’s legacy extends beyond its tales of gold, guns and grit. It is a story of resilience, transformation, and the enduring magnetism of the Western frontier. As Deadwood looks back on its 150 years, the city will be continuing to honor its vibrant past and reaffirm its ongoing dedication to historical preservation, community spirit, and hospitality; and

WHEREAS, Deadwood’s Sesquicentennial Committee has been working with citizens and organizations across our community and around the nation to create and strengthen signature events to celebrate this significant and historic milestone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Deadwood City Commission officially designates 2026 as our sesquicentennial and celebrates the 150th anniversary of Deadwood. The Commission invites all citizens of Deadwood and our visitors across the globe to join in recognizing and participating in this significant observance, celebrating Deadwood’s heritage and continued contributions to the state and nation.

Charlie Struble-Mook, Mayor