MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION OF DESIGNATE NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY 200

AS THE NORTH DAKOTA FALLEN PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

WHEREAS the 69th Legislative Session of North Dakota has before it Senate Bill 2277 designating North Dakota Highway 200 as the North Dakota Fallen Peace Officers Memorial Highway; and

WHEREAS North Dakota Highway 200 is present in and travels through Mercer County; and

WHEREAS Mercer County has suffered two line of duty deaths in its history; and

WHEREAS Senate Bill 2277 seeks to honor fallen peace officers in two methods, a statewide memorial highway honoring all fallen peace officers and also allowing for a one-mile individual designation for a specific peace officer as applied for by the family or agency of the fallen peace officer; and

WHEREAS the Mercer County Board of Commissioners unanimously approves, recognizes and wishes to honor the sacrifices of our state's fallen peace officers; and

WHEREAS the effort to designate the highway as such began in Mercer County; and

WHEREAS this designation would allow for the ability to honor two local fallen peace officers, Deputy Paul Martin of the Mercer County Sheriffs Office, who fell in the line of duty on December 6, 2023 on Highway 200 from a vehicular homicide and Deputy Joseph Runions of the Mercer County Sheriffs Office, who fell in the line of duty on April 2, 1941 from a gunshot wound; and

WHEREAS the North Dakota Peace Officers Association, the North Dakota Sheriff and Deputies Association, and family members of the fallen peace officers support the legislation as introduced;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED then MERCER COUNTY supports Senate Bill 2277 and to designate North Dakota Highway 200 as the North Dakota Fallen Peace Officers Memorial Highway.

Adopted this 20th day of February, 2025.

Mercer County Commission

Rick Bauman, Vice Chairman