

## South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Soldiers and Sailors Building 425 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501

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## NAMING SOUTH DAKOTA BRIDGES: HONORING FALLEN HEROES

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs (SDDVA) is now accepting nominations for South Dakota's Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication program.

In South Dakota, a powerful initiative is underway to name bridges in memory of the men and women from South Dakota who gave their lives in service to our country. This gesture offers us an opportunity for remembrance, reflection, and respect, ensuring that the sacrifices made by these brave individuals are never forgotten.

By naming these bridges in honor of fallen service members, the state not only recognizes their courage but also provides a tangible symbol of our collective gratitude. Each bridge represents more than just a structure of concrete and steel—it stands as a lasting tribute to the sacrifices made for our freedom.

This initiative not only gives us a space to honor the fallen but also encourages us to reflect on our responsibility to uphold the values they fought for.

Every time we cross one of these bridges, we can be reminiscent of the legacy of those who serve, reminding future generations of the cost of freedom.

Nominations, with all supporting documentation, are due by April 1 to the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. The simple, online form is available on the <a href="Bridge Dedications">Bridge Dedications</a> <a href="Days 1">Days 2</a> on the SDDVA website. Nominators are encouraged to indicate their preferred state bridge site for their respective hero.

South Dakota has dedicated 53 bridges honoring 59 heroes since 2019. To learn more about the program and to view stories on bridge honorees, visit the Bridge Dedications page on the SDDVA website.