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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 22, 2025

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE WOUNDED KNEE SACRED SITE AND  
MEMORIAL ACT SIGNED BY PRESIDENT

Anpétu Wašté Mitákuyapi!

Tribal leaders from both the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and Oglala Sioux Tribe worked alongside the South Dakota congressional delegation Representative Dusty Johnson, Senator Mike Rounds, and Senator John Thune to get through congress to secure federal protection of approximately 40 acres of the Wounded Knee Massacre site as a sacred memorial.

On Friday December 19<sup>th</sup> the President signed the bill into law at the White House. This new law recognizes the land is sacred and is not held in trust in the name of the United States. The sacred land is now in restricted fee status in the name of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and the Oglala Sioux Tribe for our future generations.

Chairman LeBeau shared his sentiments “Today, we stand to acknowledge the atrocities committed against the Lakota people to continue to heal, to protect, to educate, and most importantly, to ensure that we never forget the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890. We are grateful for the passage of the Wounded Knee Memorial and Sacred Site Act which protects our sacred lands for generations to come. The enactment of this legislation reflects the United States commitment in honoring its treaty and trust responsibilities to Tribal Nations.”

Tribes and the Delegation are working on a program ceremony at the Wounded Knee site more information is forthcoming.

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Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

