



2021 South Dakota Legislature

House Resolution 7001

Introduced by: **Representative** Mortenson

1 **A RESOLUTION, Impeaching Jason Ravnsborg, Attorney General of the State of**
 2 **South Dakota, for certain crimes or misdemeanors in office.**

3 WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the State of South Dakota is a state officer subject to
 4 impeachment pursuant to S.D. Const., Art. XVI, § 3; and

5 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment
 6 pursuant to S.D. Const., Art. XVI, § 1; and

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Sixth
 8 Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that these Articles of Impeachment are adopted in
 9 the name of the People of South Dakota and of the South Dakota House of Representatives
 10 against Jason Ravnsborg, Attorney General of the State of South Dakota, in maintenance and
 11 support of its impeachment against him for crimes or misdemeanors in office.

12 Article I: Acts Causing the Death of Joseph Boever

13 Article XVI, § 3 of the South Dakota Constitution provides that the House of
 14 Representatives may impeach "state and judicial officers," for "drunkenness, crimes, corrupt
 15 conduct, or malfeasance or misdemeanors in office." Jason Ravnsborg committed crimes or
 16 misdemeanors in office causing the death of Joseph Boever, specifically:

17 (1) On the evening of September 12, 2020, Jason Ravnsborg failed to operate his
 18 vehicle within its proper lane, crossed outside such lane, and struck pedestrian and
 19 Highmore, South Dakota resident Joseph Boever. Mr. Boever died from injuries
 20 sustained from the collision; and

21 (2) Jason Ravnsborg has been charged by the Hyde County State's Attorney with three
 22 separate crimes in connection with his driving on the night in question.

1 The Attorney General having a special obligation to the People and the Laws of the State
2 of South Dakota, Jason Ravnsborg must be removed from such office for his crimes or
3 misdemeanors in office causing the death of Joseph Boever.

4 Article II: Other Acts Following the Death of Joseph Boever

5 Article XVI, § 3 of the South Dakota Constitution provides that the House of
6 Representatives may impeach "state and judicial officers," for "drunkenness, crimes, corrupt
7 conduct, or malfeasance or misdemeanors in office." Jason Ravnsborg committed crimes or
8 misdemeanors in office associated with the investigation following the death of Joseph Boever.

9 Following the collision, including during his reporting of the collision and the resulting
10 investigation, Jason Ravnsborg undertook actions unbecoming the Attorney General. Jason
11 Ravnsborg's statements and actions failed to meet the standard of the Office of the Attorney
12 General.

13 The Attorney General having a special obligation to the People and the Laws of the State
14 of South Dakota, Jason Ravnsborg must be removed from such office for his crimes or
15 misdemeanors in office following the death of Joseph Boever.