

HOUSE COMMEMORATION NO. 1019

Introduced by: Representatives Rounds, Duba, McCleerey, Perry, Ring, and Zikmund and
Senators White, Kolbeck, Nesiba, and Wismer

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring and commending Robert A. Wylie for his dedicated service to the South Dakota Retirement System and the development of sound public pension policies in South Dakota and across the country.

WHEREAS, Rob graduated from South Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics, and a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Rob began his employment with the South Dakota Retirement System in 1982 and has been Executive Director since 2003; and

WHEREAS, Rob has provided leadership to the South Dakota Retirement System, which uniquely provides lifetime benefits to meet public employee needs, does so with fixed employer contributions that are less than fifty percent of the average rate, and has no unfunded liabilities; and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Retirement System currently has nearly ninety thousand members and over twelve billion dollars in assets, is one of the best funded public employee retirement systems in the nation, and is recognized nationally as a model retirement plan based on efficient operations and an innovative plan design; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties as Executive Director, Rob serves as an ex-officio member of the South Dakota Investment Council, which oversees the investment of all South Dakota trust assets; and

WHEREAS, Rob has worked diligently to foster sound public pension policies nationally and is active in several national public pension organizations including the National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA) and the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR). He



is a past president of NASRA and a former member of the Executive Committee. Rob serves on the NCTR Legislative Committee and has been a NCTR committee chair. Rob is also a member of the Government Accounting Standards Advisory Council, was South Dakota's delegate to the 2006 National Summit on Retirement Savings, and is a former member of the Government Finance Officers' Association CORBA Committee; and

WHEREAS, Rob co-authored a paper in response to a call for models on governmental pension designs, issued by the Society of Actuaries, seeking real-world solutions that provide secure retirement benefits in a sustainable design. The paper, based on the generational benefit design effective in 2017, was one of four designs honored by the Society of Actuaries; and

WHEREAS, Rob plans to retire in December of 2019 with nearly forty years of service to the State of South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the Legislature commends and honors Robert A. Wylie for his service to the South Dakota Retirement System and the public pension industry in South Dakota and across the country.