

SENATE COMMEMORATION NO. 42

Introduced by: Senators Rusch, Bolin, Cammack, Cronin, Haverly, Klumb, Kolbeck, Monroe, Nelson, Netherton, Otten (Ernie), Peters, Russell, Solano, Tapio, White, and Wiik and Representatives Rasmussen, Clark, Marty, Peterson (Sue), Ring, and Schoenfish

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Honoring Derek Miles for winning a bronze medal in men's pole vault during the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games.

WHEREAS, Derek Miles is a University of South Dakota alumnus who lives in Tea, South Dakota. He has been the assistant coach for the University of South Dakota track and field program for more than fourteen years; and

WHEREAS, Derek was admitted to the Henry Heider Memorial Coyote Sports Hall of Fame in the fall of 2006 and the USATFCCCA DII Hall of Fame in May of 2013; and

WHEREAS, Derek represented the United States on six world championship teams and has been a three-time United States National Champion. Derek Miles ranked number one in the United States four times and top five in the world six times by *Track and Field News Magazine*; and

WHEREAS, Derek is a three-time Olympian, competing in 2004, 2008, and 2012 and awarded fourth place in the 2008 Summer Olympics for pole vault, finishing at the same height as third place, awarded to Denys Yurchenko of the Ukraine, who had finished with fewer attempts; and

WHEREAS, Yurchenko was later stripped of his bronze medal after being found to have used a banned substance. Therefore, Derek Miles was presented a bronze medal for third place in a ceremony that was held at the University of South Dakota on April 17, 2017:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that Derek Miles be honored for winning the bronze medal in Beijing at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games.

