

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 474**

Introduced by Schumacher, 22.

WHEREAS, Jerome "Jerry" Deichert's passion is making demographic and economic information more useful for decisionmaking; and

WHEREAS, Jerry has worked for the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) since 1987, has been the Director of CPAR since 1999, has managed the Nebraska State Data Center since 1988, has taught graduate and undergraduate classes in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service, and has been a mentor to many UNO students; and

WHEREAS, under Jerry's leadership, CPAR is the lead agency in Nebraska for all U.S. census data and the authoritative source in the state for objective information about census topics and is regularly consulted by newspaper reporters, public and private organizations, and researchers; and

WHEREAS, CPAR has held its Data Users Conference since 1990, hosting as many as 350 attendees annually from a wide variety of organizations in the region who are then empowered to use census data for their own research and community action; and

WHEREAS, during Jerry's term as the director, CPAR has won several awards including the 2006-07 Chancellor's Strategic Planning Award for Community Engagement, the U.S. Census Bureau's Gustafson Award for outstanding contributions to the State Data Center Network in 2016, and the UNO Office of Research and Creative Activity Faculty Research Award for having the largest award amount in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Jerry has published numerous articles and reports in academic journals and other outlets that analyze data for the state, including economic and population projections for the state, counties, and other sub-areas. Many community development efforts have relied on data provided and interpreted by

Jerry for long-term planning; and

WHEREAS, Jerry was presented with the Del and Lou Ann Weber Award of Excellence in 2005, which recognizes an individual from UNO who provides outstanding professional service at the local, regional, or national level; and

WHEREAS, Jerry has been a member of the Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board since 1988 and currently serves as the chair, providing objective and accurate revenue forecasts used by both the Governor and the Legislature in developing the state budget; and

WHEREAS, Jerry led the university's efforts to assist the Legislature's Planning Committee since the inception of the committee in 2009. In this endeavor, Jerry and his colleagues have developed a comprehensive data base which provides objective, authoritative data on several different policy areas spanning the range of state government, a series of twenty-nine policy briefs that have had significant influence on state policymaking, and other demographic reports useful to legislators; and

WHEREAS, Jerry will retire in June of 2018 after over thirty years at UNO, where he brought objective information to bear on a vast array of topics, gained tremendous respect from lawmakers, colleagues, and the general public, and achieved a synergy between research and community service that is at the heart of UNO's mission, and he did so with humility, perseverance, and good humor that is a model for all of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature expresses its appreciation to Jerome "Jerry" Deichert for his service and dedication to the university, students, communities, the Legislature, and the State of Nebraska.

2. That the Legislature congratulates and honors Jerome "Jerry" Deichert on his retirement and wishes him continued success and happiness.