

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota was founded with hard work, perseverance, dedication to duty, and concern for others, and each of these attributes can be applied to Michael Held; and,

Whereas, Michael has been a key figure in South Dakota agriculture for the past 36 years, since becoming Executive Director of the South Dakota Farm Bureau on October 4, 1976; and,

Whereas, Michael has seen South Dakota agriculture through drought and floods, heat waves and blizzards, seven different farm bills, seven different governors, and thirty-six legislative sessions.

Whereas, Michael and the South Dakota Farm Bureau came to be recognized as the credible and reliable source of information on issues affecting family farmers and ranchers, and was sought out by politicians, statesmen, community leaders, and business leaders from across the state; and,

Whereas, Michael has been active in his home community of Huron, serving on the Huron Regional Development Board of Directors and the Government Affairs Committee for the Huron Chamber of Commerce and is active in his church and is a song leader of the Holy Trinity choir. He is an avid baseball fan, serving as a commissioner on the South Dakota Amateur Baseball Association, umpiring Teener, Legion, and amateur baseball, helping coach a youth baseball team, and playing Men's Senior baseball; and,

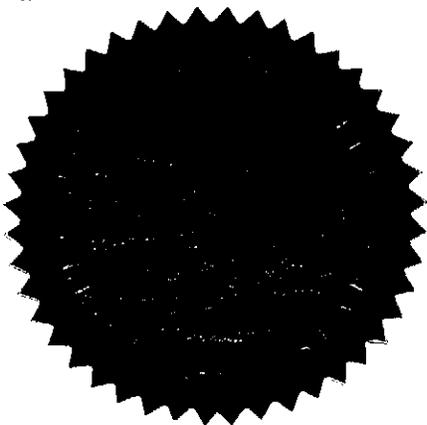
Whereas, Michael Held will retire on August 25, 2012, as CEO of the South Dakota Farm Bureau and devote his life to grandkids, baseball, and youth sports; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to make special note of this outstanding South Dakotan as his family, colleagues, and friends gather to congratulate him on his retirement:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 25, 2012, as

MICHAEL HELD DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with his family, colleagues, and friends in wishing him a fulfilling and happy retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State