

## HOUSE COMMEMORATION NO. 1011

Introduced by: Representatives Smith, Ahlers, Bartling, Diedrich, Jamison, Jensen (Kevin), Johns, Johnson, Lake, Lesmeister, May, McCleerey, Ring, Schaefer, Schoenfish, Steinhauer, Wismer, and Zikmund and Senators Partridge, Haverly, Heinert, Nesiba, Novstrup, Peters, Rusch, Sutton, and Youngberg

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Congratulating Augustana University on its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and recognizing the university's continued impact on students and communities throughout the state.

WHEREAS, one hundred years ago Augustana University merged with the Lutheran Normal School and moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2017, Augustana University saw its largest incoming class since 1978 with 481 first-year students from 20 states and 10 countries, an increase of 14 percent from last year. The University's newest Vikings joined existing students as well as 331 graduate students for a total enrollment of 2,080, a 7.5 percent increase from the prior year and the largest enrollment since 1990. For the 2017-18 academic year, Augustana's 100-acre campus is home to students from 33 states and 32 countries; and

WHEREAS, Augustana University inaugurated former Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth Sandlin as president in the fall of 2017, the first woman to lead the institution since its founding in 1860. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin served our state with distinction as a member of Congress from 2004 to 2011, and was recognized by the Augustana University Board of Trustees as a leader of people and institutions, with a demonstrated track record for building and strengthening bridges between people, policies, and programs; and

WHEREAS, Augustana University has long been considered a net importer of intellectual capital to both the state of South Dakota and the city of Sioux Falls, contributing to its workforce development and labor market. Among recent graduates, more than half chose to stay and build their careers in South Dakota, including 46 percent of non-residents enrolled at Augustana. Today, more



than 9,000 Augustana alumni call South Dakota home; and

WHEREAS, Augustana University continues to serve the state, the region, and the world through undergraduate and graduate academic programming, research, innovation, and outreach in support of its mission to provide an education of enduring worth that challenges the intellect, fosters integrity, and integrates faith with learning and service in a diverse world:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the Legislature congratulates and recognizes Augustana University for its commitment to education in the state of South Dakota and for one hundred years in Sioux Falls.