

2024 South Dakota Legislature House Commemoration 8014

Introduced by: Representative Krohmer

1A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Congratulating Eric Schroeder for becoming the2new fire chief of the Wessington Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

3 WHEREAS, Eric Schroeder has served as a firefighter in South Dakota communities for

4 over sixteen years, feeling a call for public service and public safety. After serving in both the

5 <u>Alexandria and Mitchell fire departments, Schroeder joined the Wessington Springs Volunteer</u>

6 Fire Department in 2018. Seeing a critical need for emergency services personnel, Schroeder

7 also earned his EMT license; and

8 WHEREAS, in January 2024, Schroeder was chosen to become the new chief of the

9 <u>Wessington Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Schroeder is dedicated to his new role,</u>

10 bringing forward new initiatives for smoke alarms and a medical assistant unit to support the

- 11 ambulance service in the area; and
- 12 WHEREAS, over ninety-five percent of fire departments in South Dakota are volunteer.

13 Volunteer firefighters and first responder units are vital in South Dakota, especially in rural

- 14 <u>areas where smaller communities struggle to find volunteers:</u>
- 15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Ninth Legislature of the State

16 of South Dakota, that Eric Schroeder is congratulated for becoming the new fire chief of the

17 <u>Wessington Springs Volunteer Fire Department, and he is thanked for his years of service in</u>

18 this vital public safety role.