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FREDERICKSON WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION TO MINNESOTA SENATE

(St. Paul) District 21 State Senator Dennis Frederickson (R-New Ulm) announced today he will not seek a tenth term this November. Frederickson was first elected to the Senate in 1980 and has been reelected eight times. He has served southwest Minnesota in the Senate for 30 years.

“It has been an honor and privilege to have represented my constituents at the State Capitol,” said Frederickson. “To have their trust and confidence all these years is very humbling.” Frederickson, a retired farmer, is a leader in environment and natural resource issues. He was the Senate author of the Clean Water Legacy Act and the Minnesota River Conservation Enhancement Program (CREP) that enrolled 100,000 acres of land into conservation use to improve water quality.

He has been a member of the Legislative Citizen-Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for 20 years. The LCCMR recommends projects for funding from the Environmental Trust Fund to the legislature. He is currently the Senate Vice-Chair of the LCCMR. In 2007 he was elected President Pro Tem of the Senate, the first member of a minority caucus to be elected to that leadership position.

Prior to being elected to the Senate in 1980, Frederickson served eight years as a Redwood County Commissioner being elected to that position in 1972. He was Chairman of the Board for two years. Combining his Senate and Commissioner service, he has been in elected office for 38 years. He retired from farming in 1997.

Since redistricting in 2002, Frederickson has represented Senate District 21 comprising of Brown, Redwood and Lyon Counties and part of Watonwan County. Through three redistrictings, he has also served constituents in Blue Earth, Cottonwood, LeSueur, McLeod, Murray, Nicollet, Renville, and Sibley Counties.

“It is still tremendously rewarding to serve in the Minnesota Senate, and I intend to continue working hard in the Senate until January 2011. But it is time to spend more time with my wife, Marj; fishing, hunting, canoeing the Minnesota River; and enjoying grandchildren’s concerts, gymnastics, basketball and soccer games. I want to visit our beautiful state parks and trails and enjoy the outdoors,” said Frederickson. “My heartfelt thank you to all the citizens in the four Senate Districts I’ve represented for allowing me the privilege of serving in the Minnesota State Senate.”

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