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## **January 7, 2019**

## The College Savings Plans Network Elects New Leadership

Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs to Serve as Chair in 2020

**Washington, DC** – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs has been elected to serve as Chair of the <u>College Savings Plans Network (CSPN)</u>, a leading objective source of information about Section 529 college savings plans and prepaid tuition plans. Treasurer Frerichs, who began his new role as of January 1, is joined by two additional CSPN leadership members – Vice-Chair and Assistant Nebraska State Treasurer Rachel Biar, and Treasurer and Alabama State Treasury 529 Director Anita Kelley.

CSPN's newly elected board members for 2020 include Washington State Treasurer Duane Davidson, South Carolina State Treasurer Curtis Loftis, VA529 Executive Officer Mary Morris, and My529 Executive Director Richard Ellis. CSPN board members who will continue on the board in 2020 are South Dakota State Treasurer Josh Haeder, Oregon State Treasurer Tobias Read, Executive Director of Alaska 529 Lael Oldmixon, and Executive Director, Path2College 529 Plan Mitch Seabaugh.

In his new role as CSPN Chair, Treasurer Frerichs will work alongside CSPN board members to promote 529 college savings plans and ensure the Network meets its target goals and objectives.

"I am honored to serve as the new Chair of CSPN," said Treasurer Frerichs. "There are 14 million 529 savings accounts and I look forward to growing that number and the amount of savings in each account, so more Americans can pursue their education goals while minimizing the national student debt."

Treasurer Frerichs was elected Illinois State Treasurer in 2014 and re-elected in 2018. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the National Association of State Treasurers, is Chair of the NAST Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Committee and is on the Executive Board of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers.

Treasurer Frerichs succeeds Director of Wisconsin's College Savings Program, Jim DiUlio, as CSPN chair.

## About College Savings Plans Network (CSPN)

Founded in 1991, the College Savings Plans Network (CSPN) is a leading objective source of information about Section 529 college savings plans and prepaid tuition plans–popular, convenient, and tax-advantaged ways to save for college. An affiliate of the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST), CSPN brings together state officials who administer 529 savings and prepaid plans from across the country, as well as their private-sector partners, to offer convenient tools and objective, unbiased information to help families make informed decisions about saving for higher education. For more information, visit the CSPN website at <u>CollegeSavings.org</u> and follow CSPN on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

## **About National Association of State Treasurers**

The National Association of State Treasurers seeks to provide advocacy and support that enables member states to pursue and administer sound financial policies and programs benefiting the citizens of the nation. Membership is composed of all State Treasurers or state finance officials with comparable responsibilities from the United States, its commonwealths, territories, and the District of Columbia. The private sector is represented through the Corporate Affiliate Program that was established to build professional relationships and foster cooperation between the public and private sectors. The association serves its members through educational conferences and webinars, a variety of working groups, policy advocacy, and publications that provide information about developments in public finance. For more information, visit <u>www.nast.org</u>.