

# 79th Annual Meeting

MARCH 18, 2021 | VIRTUAL

## Former Lieutenant Governor Dennis A. Wicker

Former Lieutenant Governor Dennis A. Wicker was born and raised in Sanford. He attended the public schools in Lee County. He was admitted to UNC-CH where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa with Honors in Economics and received his law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law.

Governor Wicker served two four-year terms as North Carolina's 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Governor (1993-2001). During that time, he was the first statewide elected official to chair the State Board of Community Colleges, was a member of the State Board of Education and the State Board of Economic Development.

Governor Wicker was also a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives for 12 years prior to becoming Lieutenant Governor and was elected House Majority Leader by his peers during his last two terms.

During his 20 years in elected office, he fought for legislation that would strengthen the public schools, establish affordable healthcare insurance for small businesses, a healthcare insurance plan for all children, tougher DWI laws, free tuition for community college students and campaign finance reform.

In 2016, Governor Wicker received the prestigious Champions for the Children Award in the category of Public Service from the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children. He was also recognized by the Sanford Herald as the 1988 and 2013 Citizen of the Year, and by the Triangle Business Leader magazine as a 2008 Triangle Business Leader.

Governor Wicker currently holds positions on the Boards of Directors of Coca-Cola Consolidated, Inc. and FirstBancorp. He is a founder and current board member for the Lee County Education Foundation, which has granted \$750,000.00 to Lee County Public Schools over the past 15 years. He is also a current member on the Board of Visitors of Campbell University Law School and on the Duke Heart Center Leadership Council.

He continues to reside at his homeplace in Sanford with his wife, Alisa. They are members of St. Luke United Methodist Church.

