



## NASDVA President

### **John Hilgert** – Nebraska

John Hilgert was elected as the 2019-2021 National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs President and serves as the Director of the State of Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs. The department is the statewide advocate for our veterans' earned benefits and services.

Since leaving the State Legislature in 2001 as the State Senator serving Downtown and South Omaha, John Hilgert has served as the Director of the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs, having been appointed by then-Governor Mike Johanns. Governor Heineman retained John as Director and assigned him additional duties as a Division Director of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services with direct oversight of the Veterans Homes Division. He continued to serve the State in both capacities, having been retained by Governor Pete Ricketts in 2015. In 2017, the Veterans' Homes Division was merged into the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs. John is an Army veteran of the Gulf War, having served with the First Infantry Division.