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(Neb)-Gov Names New DED Director

By: John Axtell Posted at: 07/31/2019 11:40 PM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts has dipped into the private sector again to pick the next director of the Department of Economic Development.

Tony Goins will succeed Dave Rippe, who is stepping down next month to return home to Hastings and the private sector. DED deputy director Dan Curran will serve as interim director until Goins takes over October 7 at a salary of \$200,000 a year.

Goins has one of the most extensive resumes of any business executive in Nebraska. He's currently Director of Branded Products for Lincoln Industries, leads the consulting firm Business Optimizer and Partners, and is CEO and partner in the Capital Cigar Lounge in Lincoln.

In the past, Goins was Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Cabela's "World's Foremost Bank" and Vice President of Cabela's Retail Corp, led international teams for banking giants Certus Bank and JP Morgan Chase, and worked for organizations ranging from American Express to the United Services Automobile Association.

A veteran of the Marine Corps, he's currently on the boards of the National Student Loan Program, Bank of Bennington, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska, Bryan Health, Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, Omaha Operat, and Junior Achievement. He's also a faculty member at the Univ of Wisconsin.

Governor Ricketts says he's thrilled to have Goins' executive experience and entrepreneurial drive at the helm of the Dept of Economic Deelopment because he understands what it takes to build organizations and recruit new investments to the state.

Goins calls it an honor to join the Ricketts team and say Nebraska, with its "incredible people and family-oriented communities to its great quality of life and pro-growth climate is positioned to attract new talent and investment from across the nation and around the world.