



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-12

WHEREAS, the safety and security of the United States and the citizens of North Dakota depend upon strong and sustainable military communities that support the Active Component, National Guard and Reserve forces and their families while encouraging the growth of military missions within the State; and,

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota can best support the military forces, military families, and further military missions within our State through a comprehensive and strategic plan to create opportunities to grow and promote our military communities; and,

WHEREAS, an effective strategic approach requires input from the active Component, North Dakota National Guard and Reserve Forces, leaders from military communities, and representatives from state government; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor has executive authority to convene groups dedicated to addressing issues of importance to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, Doug Burgum, Governor of North Dakota, by virtue of the authority vested under Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution, hereby orders:

The Task Force for Military Issues in North Dakota (Task Force MIND) is hereby established. Task Force MIND will incorporate and expand on the accomplishments of the North Dakota Commission on Military Promotion and Strategic Sustainment, created under Executive Order 2018-02; accordingly, Executive Order 2018-02 is no longer necessary and is hereby rescinded.

1. Task Force MIND will establish a statewide strategic process to ensure the continued relevance of the military forces, the military bases and missions within the state of North Dakota.
2. Task Force MIND's primary responsibilities include:
 - a. To examine current military challenges and anticipate future military opportunities for the state and our Air Base communities and development of a comprehensive statewide strategy.
 - b. To provide a framework that will assist the Department of Commerce in the administration of legislatively authorized state funds to communities

for the purpose of improving North Dakota's status as "military friendly" and to support base retention efforts.

- c. To propose policy that promotes North Dakota as a military friendly state.
 - d. To serve as an informational conduit on military matters for national- level military leaders and elected officials of the State of North Dakota.
3. Task Force MIND will include eleven voting members, appointed by the Governor:
- a. The Lieutenant Governor, as Chairperson;
 - b. The North Dakota Adjutant General;
 - c. The Commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce
 - d. One (1) member from the City of Minot
 - e. One (1) member from the City of Grand Forks
 - f. One (1) member from the City of Fargo
 - g. One (1) member from the City of Bismarck
 - h. Four (4) at-large members.
4. Task Force MIND will include six non-voting members, appointed by the Governor:
- a. The Grand Forks Air Base Commander;
 - b. The Minot Air Base Commander
 - c. The Fargo Air Base Commander
 - d. A representative from the Department of Public Instruction
 - e. A representative from the Department of Health
 - f. A representative from the North Dakota University System

This Executive Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until rescinded. Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 21 day of July 2021.



Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:



Al Jaeger
Secretary of State