

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES & HYPERMOBILITY SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2026

WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) are a group of 13 heritable connective tissue disorders that together affect 1 in 5,000 people. Each type of EDS has its own set of symptoms, but some features are seen across all types of EDS, including joint hypermobility, skin hyperextensibility and tissue fragility; and

WHEREAS, hypermobility spectrum disorders (HSD) are connective tissue disorders that cause joint hypermobility, instability, injury and pain. Other symptoms, such as fatigue, headaches, GI problems and autonomic dysfunction are also often seen as part of HSD; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for any type of EDS or HSD. The conditions are managed by addressing a person's symptoms. EDS and HSD can cause a variety of symptoms in many different areas of the body, so people with these conditions often require multiple providers in different specialties to manage their care; and

WHEREAS, access to professionals who are knowledgeable about EDS and HSD is limited, and lack of awareness about EDS and HSD stands in the way of the diagnosis, management and research of these conditions; and

WHEREAS, awareness about EDS and HSD by both medical professionals and the general public can help improve the lives of people living with EDS and HSD in North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2026, EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES & HYPERMOBILITY SPECTRUM
DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE