

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH OCTOBER 2026

WHEREAS, Employee Ownership Month is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of employee owners who help strengthen businesses, communities and local economies; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to more than 60 employee-owned companies representing approximately 30,000 employee owners, demonstrating a strong foundation for employee ownership; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership models provide employees with the opportunity to participate in an employer-funded retirement benefit, allowing employees to share in business success, build long-term financial security and develop a greater connection to the growth and success of their organizations; and

WHEREAS, employee-owned businesses foster a culture of shared responsibility, increase employee engagement, support workforce stability and promote long-term success and sustainability of businesses; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership provides succession planning for business owners seeking to transition ownership while preserving jobs, maintaining locally rooted businesses and supporting economic growth in communities, including rural communities; and

WHEREAS, as many long-time business owners approach retirement, they are creating an opportunity to preserve locally owned businesses and strengthen communities through employee ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
OCTOBER 2026, **EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH**
in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE