



WHEREAS, on July 4, 2026, the United States will celebrate its 250th anniversary of independence, making it a significant milestone in American history; and

WHEREAS, many events, including the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum grand opening, are planned on this historic day and throughout the year; and,

WHEREAS, statewide events are anticipated to increase visitation, travel, and public activity, thereby impacting critical infrastructure and emergency service operations across multiple jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, mass gatherings elevate the risk of public safety incidents, including medical emergencies, heightened wildland fire risk, stress on infrastructure, traffic congestion, and potential safety or security threats; and,

WHEREAS, local emergency services will experience strained capacity and exceed resource capability to manage and support preparedness, response, and recovery efforts to maintain the safety and security of the community and travelers; and,

WHEREAS, conditions exist that warrant enhanced preparedness measures to ensure the State of North Dakota is ready to effectively respond to potential impacts; and,

WHEREAS, support services will perform and exercise necessary functions, powers, and duties that are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of life and property; and,

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to utilize the available resources of the state and its political subdivisions as reasonably necessary to prepare for, respond to, and cope with the anticipated events and any emergencies that may occur.

NOW THEREFORE, Kelly Armstrong, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, by virtue of the authority vested under Article V, Section 1, North Dakota Constitution and Chapter 37-17.1, North Dakota Century Code, hereby declares a statewide disaster and activates the North Dakota State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) to ensure the readiness of state government to respond to potential or emerging threats that may



impact public safety, health or property. All state agencies, including the North Dakota National Guard, are directed to review and, as appropriate, implement preparedness and response plans, maintain high readiness levels to ensure personnel and resources are ready for deployment, and coordinate with the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services in support of monitoring and preparedness activities. The Adjutant General may activate and make available North Dakota National Guard resources to support state agencies and local and tribal governments based on normal cost shares.

This order is issued pursuant to the following authority and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and,
2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and,
3. A coordinated and effective effort of all state departments is required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this state.

This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until December 30, 2026, or until it is rescinded.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 7th day of April 2026.

A blue ink signature of Kelly Armstrong, Governor of North Dakota, written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Armstrong
Governor

Attest:

A blue ink signature of Michael Howe, Secretary of State, written over a horizontal line.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State

