

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2026

WHEREAS, retirement income security is an essential component of financial well-being and economic stability, providing individuals with the resources necessary to maintain independence, dignity and quality of life throughout retirement; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's public retirement systems, including the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System, the Teachers' Fund for Retirement and the North Dakota University System, provide retirement security to tens of thousands of public servants, retirees and beneficiaries while contributing significantly to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, retirement benefit payments generate substantial economic activity across North Dakota communities, supporting local businesses, healthcare providers, housing markets and tax revenues while strengthening the state's economic foundation; and

WHEREAS, guaranteed lifetime income remains one of the most effective tools for addressing longevity risk and helping retirees avoid outliving their savings, offering the peace of mind and financial certainty that workers need to plan confidently for their futures; and

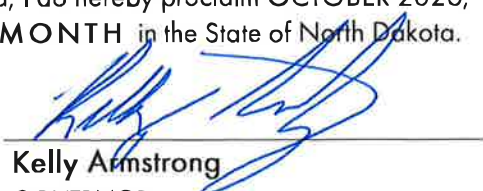
WHEREAS, it is the policy and commitment of the State of North Dakota that all state public employee retirement plans should provide participants with access to guaranteed lifetime income investment options, ensuring that public servants who have dedicated their careers to serving North Dakotans have the opportunity to convert their retirement savings into a secure, predictable stream of income that they cannot outlive, thereby promoting long-term financial dignity and independence for all public employees in retirement; and

WHEREAS, the month of October presents an important opportunity for all North Dakotans—workers, families, employers and public officials alike—to reflect on the importance of saving for retirement, building financial resilience and securing a stable financial future; and

WHEREAS, all North Dakotans, including citizens, educators, employers, financial institutions, community organizations and public officials, are encouraged to promote financial literacy, retirement preparedness and lifelong financial wellness for the benefit of current and future generations of North Dakotans. Further, all state agencies, public employee retirement systems, and plan administrators are called upon to prioritize the availability of guaranteed lifetime income investment options within state public employee retirement plans, so that every public servant in North Dakota has access to the tools and choices necessary to achieve lasting financial security in retirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 2026, RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE