



State of  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**  
OCTOBER 2017

**WHEREAS**, our nation was founded on the principle that anyone who works hard should be able to get ahead in life. People with disabilities deserve the opportunity to earn an income and achieve independence, just like anyone else; and

**WHEREAS**, out of all 50 states, North Dakota has the third-highest employment rate for people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota has consistently held one of the highest disability employment rates of any state in the nation, outperforming larger states such as California and New York; and

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**WHEREAS**, out of 38,000 working-age North Dakotans living with disabilities, nearly half have jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 11,000 North Dakota students have individual education plans (IEPs); together we can make a brighter future of independence, income and achievement possible for all of them; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished when people with disabilities are given the opportunity to put their skills to work and succeed in the labor force.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2017, **NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State