

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF IDEA NOVEMBER 29, 2025

WHEREAS, on November 29, 1975, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act – later named the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA – was signed into law, guaranteeing that children and youth with disabilities are entitled to a free and appropriate public education tailored to their individual needs; and

WHEREAS, IDEA established foundational civil rights in education, including education in the least restrictive environment, the development of individualized education programs, procedural safeguards and meaningful collaboration between families and schools; and

WHEREAS, IDEA's Part C has expanded access to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, and Part B ensures special education and related services for eligible children and youth ages 3-21, fostering academic, social, emotional and transition outcomes; and

WHEREAS, over five decades IDEA has helped open schoolhouse doors, promoted inclusive classrooms, reduced barriers to learning and affirmed high expectations for students with disabilities across our state; and

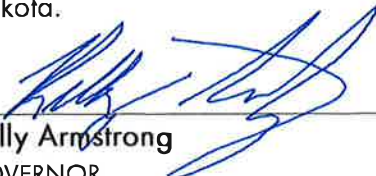
WHEREAS, the success of IDEA rests on the dedication of students, families, educators, related service providers, school leaders and community partners who uphold its promise every day; and

WHEREAS, our state remains committed to ensuring that all students with disabilities receive rigorous instruction, accessible materials and technology, appropriate supports and equitable opportunities to graduate ready for college, career, community living and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the 50th anniversary of IDEA offers an opportunity to celebrate progress, recommit to full implementation and advance innovation in inclusive practices, transition planning and workforce pathways; and we recognize that continued collaboration among families, schools, higher education, employers, service agencies and advocates is essential to realize the law's version of access, equity and excellence for every learner.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
November 29, 2025, the 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF IDEA in the
State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE