## STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## AVIATION MONTH MARCH 2024

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the state of North Dakota has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, public airports and airport operations; and

WHEREAS, the aviation and aerospace industry continues to play an increasing role as an economic catalyst in North Dakota, creating over 32,000 jobs and contributing an estimated \$3.6 billion annually to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota has 89 public-use airports across the state, serving approximately 4,000 manned pilots, 1,500 remote pilots and over 2,200 based aircraft; and

WHEREAS, 2.2 million passengers utilized commercial air transportation within North Dakota in 2023 and contributed an estimated \$600 million to the state's economy through commercial passenger visitor spending; and

WHEREAS, aviation is also an essential part of North Dakota's agricultural productivity as 89 aerial applicator businesses provided services to approximately 5 million acres of cropland in 2023; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to one of the leading Uncrewed Aircraft System (UAS) test sites in the nation where research and development continues to integrate this new industry into the national airspace system through VANTIS, a first-of-its-kind network for beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is a leader in world-class aviation education opportunities, product development and technological advancement.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2024, AVIATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE