November 16th, 2020

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Governor of North Dakota
ND State Capital Building
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Governor Burgum,

On behalf of the 212 long term care members, 16,000 staff and 10,000 long term care residents and tenants, thank you for the mitigation strategies you put in place on Saturday, November 14th, 2020.

In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, long term care facilities shut down visitation, communal dining and group activities. We believe these difficult, but necessary, steps have helped slow the virus in long term care. Based on what we’ve seen in our facilities, we believe taking steps now to decrease activities in North Dakota will slow the COVID-19 spread, preserve hospital capacity and keep our essential health care workers working and caring for our residents.

This action will help save lives. We have an estimated 1500 staff out today because they are either COVID positive, in quarantine as a close personal contact, or have developed symptoms indicative of COVID and are not allowed to work. We do not have sufficient staff to care for residents in numerous situations and welcome all measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We are caring for an at-risk vulnerable population and they want to live through this pandemic and be reunited with their families.

Again, thank you for your actions on November 13th to help stem the tide of illness and death in our state.

Sincerely,

Shelly Peterson, President
North Dakota Long Term Care Association

Cynthia Tredwell, Board Chair
North Dakota Long Term Care Association
"Governor Burgum Mask Mandate1" History

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