

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

OSTEOPOROSIS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH MAY 2025

WHEREAS, an estimated 54 million Americans have osteoporosis or low bone mass, and studies suggest that approximately 1 in 2 women and up to 1 in 4 men age 50 and older will break a bone due to osteoporosis; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1.8 million Medicare beneficiaries suffered approximately 2.1 million osteoporotic fractures a year, and osteoporosis-related bone fractures are responsible for more hospitalizations than heat attacks, strokes or breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, the total annual cost for osteoporotic fractures among Medicare beneficiaries was \$57 billion dollars in 2018 and is expected to grow to over \$95 billion dollars in 2040 without reforms as the population ages; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota over 3,000 Medicare beneficiaries suffered over 4,500 osteoporotic fractures in 2016; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 600 North Dakotans on Medicare suffered not just an initial fracture but also a subsequent fracture resulting in estimated costs of over \$12.2 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, osteoporosis and the broken bones it can cause are not part of normal aging; building strong bones begins in childhood and is essential to the prevention of osteoporosis; care for our bones is important throughout our lives, but we reach our peak bone mass by early adulthood; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that we raise awareness about bone health and osteoporosis among the public, health professionals and policy makers.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2025, OSTEOPOROSIS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH
in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE