

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### WOMEN VETERANS' MONTH MARCH 2026

WHEREAS, women have served honorably and courageously on behalf of the United States of America in every war and conflict since the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, the United States military has evolved from a predominantly male force to a force with more than 17.2% women currently serving on active duty, and more than 21.1% women serving in the Reserves and National Guard; and North Dakota's veteran population includes more than 5,000 women; and

WHEREAS, women are the fastest-growing cohort of the veteran population; nearly 10% of veterans today are women, and the population of women veterans is projected to increase from 6% in 2000 to about 16% of the total veteran population in 2040; and

WHEREAS, with a rapidly increasing number of women serving in the military today and returning from deployments as seasoned veterans with exposure to combat, the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans service organizations across our state and nation are working to ensure post-deployment mental and physical health needs unique to women veterans are being met; and

WHEREAS, state and federal agencies and service organizations are working together to enhance health care services for women veterans, ensuring clinicians are properly trained to provide gender-specific care to women of all ages and identifying innovative courses of treatment and solutions to issues that are unique to women veterans; and

WHEREAS, women veterans are encouraged to reach out to the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and its women veterans coordinator, as well as other veterans service organizations, to ensure women veterans of all eras receive the services and benefits they deserve unique to their health care and lifestyle needs; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize the generations of women veterans who have proudly and valiantly served this great state and nation and who have played an integral role in defending our homeland and preserving freedom around the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
March 2026, **WOMEN VETERANS' MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.



  
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Kelly Armstrong  
GOVERNOR

  
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ATTEST:  
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE