WHEREAS, a state of emergency was declared by Governor Doug Burgum on March 13, 2020, in response to the public health crisis resulting from COVID-19; Executive Order 2020-03 activated the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP), implementing appropriate response and recovery actions and future mitigation measures; and,

WHEREAS, in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, to protect and save lives, North Dakota citizens have been advised to adopt measures established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the North Dakota Department of Health, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Department of Transportation and other state agencies adopted alternate service delivery models to ensure citizens had access to all essential state services; and,

WHEREAS, the ND Smart Restart guidelines were issued on April 29, 2020, as revised standard procedures and industry-specific rules focused upon safe business operations during the coronavirus pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, on June 1, the North Dakota State Capitol and state facilities were directed to reopen to the public, subject to the ND Smart Restart guidelines; the Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division has established a process to address the backlog of operator licensing examinations and renewals, as well as motor vehicle registrations, transfers and renewal, as safely and efficiently as possible to address the needs and concerns of citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, Doug Burgum, Governor of North Dakota, by virtue of the authority under Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution and North Dakota Century Code Chapter 37-17.1, and in consultation with Director Bill Panos, North Dakota Department of Transportation, hereby orders the following:

Through August 31, 2020, all North Dakota law enforcement agencies and private sector businesses operating in this state are hereby directed to recognize any North Dakota driver’s license or North Dakota motor vehicle registration that expired on or after March 1, 2020.

This order is issued upon the following basis and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution.

2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders, to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.
3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this State.

This order supersedes Executive Order 2020-07. It is effective immediately and shall remain in effect through August 31, 2020.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 23rd day of June, 2020.

Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:

Secretary of State