

WHEREAS, our rights and liberties are rooted in the cherished documents that gave birth to our nation, those being the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights which sets forth the principles upon which our government is based; and

WHEREAS, the core principles embodied in the foundational documents that define our system of government form a common bond to unite the people of the United States; and we, as Americans, enjoy our freedom and the rule of law through these documents; and

WHEREAS, the civic culture that defines the United States can be sustained as long as each generation develops a deep understanding and commitment to the principles of our founding documents and accordingly, it is vital that every American be educated in the knowledge of our Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in the words of our nation's first president, George Washington, during his April 30, 1789, inaugural address, "The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered ... deeply, ... finally, staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people"; and

WHEREAS, by the unanimous consent of the states present at the Constitutional Congress on Monday, September 17, 1787, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Constitution was submitted to the state delegations for ratification, and it subsequently was ratified and amended to include its Bill of Rights, where our inalienable rights and liberties are enumerated; and

WHEREAS, Constitution Day was established to celebrate the United States Constitution and its Bill of Rights, and provides an opportunity for American citizens to reaffirm the achievements of our Founding Fathers and recommit ourselves to preserving the rights, privileges and responsibilities our nation's founders secured for themselves and for the prosperity of future generations of Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2024, AMERICAN FOUNDERS MONTH and September 17, 2024, CONSTITUTION DAY in the State of North Dakota.



Dovg Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE