

PROCLAMATION **AMERICAN EAGLE DAY** JUNE 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle was designated as the United States of America's national emblem on June 20, 1782, by the Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle is unique to North America and represents American values and attributes such as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the United States Government, including the Presidency, Congress, Department of Commerce, and United States Postal Service; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have a played a significant role in the culture, beliefs, traditions, and religion of Americans, as well as in American art, music, literature, and currency; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle has been removed completely from Endangered Species Act protection but will continue to be protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to join in the support of the majestic Bald Eagle's continuing recovery, the protection of its precious natural habitat, and in commemoration of the living and symbolic presence of our national bird through the annual observance of American Eagle Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim June 20, 2017, **AMERICAN EAGLE DAY** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State