

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2023

WHEREAS, arthritis affects more than 60 million American adults living with some form of arthritis as diagnosed by a doctor, representing 24.1% of adults in the United States; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 300,000 children under 18 years of age have a form of arthritis or rheumatic conditions, representing approximately 1 in every 250 children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, arthritis costs the United States economy more than \$304 billion each year, \$140 billion in direct medical care costs and \$164 billion in lost wages; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota, there are 176,000 adults with doctor-diagnosed arthritis; and

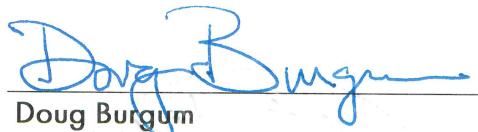
WHEREAS, among working age adults with arthritis in North Dakota, 33% have some work limitations due to their arthritis; and


WHEREAS, 1 in every 3 every three United States veterans lives with arthritis, and arthritis is the top cause of disability among veterans; and research supporting better prevention strategies, interventions and treatments is crucial to reducing the number of soldiers and veterans suffering from arthritis; and

WHEREAS, arthritis is a chronic health problem that is the nation's leading cause of physical disability among Americans and is most common among people with multiple chronic conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2023, **ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE