NORTH DAKOTA

$PROCLAMATION \equiv$

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2020

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders are a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors and speech and nonverbal communication; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders affect approximately 1 in 68 children, as well as an unknown number of adults of all genders, races, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds in the United States; and

WHEREAS, early, accurate diagnosis and appropriate education, intervention and therapy are vital to the well-being of those with autism spectrum disorders; and

WHEREAS, persons with an autism spectrum disorder should have access to the care, services and opportunities they need to be happy and to achieve their greatest potential; and

WHEREAS, autism has wide-ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, and early diagnosis, research, training, education and therapies are important to reducing the effects of autism; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to increase their awareness and appreciation of the unique talents and abilities of individuals on the autism spectrum, ensuring that those with autism are accurately diagnosed and effectively treated throughout their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2020, AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

OF NORTH OF

Doug Burgum

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE

ATTEST: