



State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH
APRIL 2017

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 at least 1 in 68 children and an unknown number of adults in the United States of all genders, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds; 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 2017 **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** and April 2, 2017, as **AUTISM AWARENESS DAY** in the State of North Dakota.


Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State