## NORTH DAKOTA

## = PROCLAMATION ===

## BLUE STAR FAMILY WELCOME WEEK

SEPTEMBER 24 — OCTOBER 2, 2022

WHEREAS, Blue Star Family Welcome Week seeks to empower military families by connecting them with their neighbors — individuals and organizations — to create vibrant communities of mutual support; and

WHEREAS, the week beginning the last Saturday in September and concluding eight days thereafter is nationally celebrated as "Blue Star Welcome Week"; and during this week, the 600,000 active-duty and transitioning military families who move to new communities each year are recognized and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all permanent change of station (PCS) moves occur during the summer; and

WHEREAS, only 30 percent of military family respondents to the 2021 Military Family Lifestyle Survey reported that they feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community; yet, a sense of belonging is essential to the well-being and readiness of military families; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to the Minot Air Force Base and the Grand Forks Air Force Base, as well as the many service members and their families who serve there; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is committed to ensuring that military- and veteran-connected families feel a strong sense of belonging to their local civilian communities; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are deeply grateful for the sacrifices made by service members, transitioning veterans and their families; and are encouraged to welcome military- and veteran-connected families into their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 24—October 2, 2022, BLUE STAR FAMILY WELCOME WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

CREAT SEAL ON A SEAL OF THE SE

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE