NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

BREASTFEEDING MONTH AUGUST 2023

WHEREAS, the healthy development of children is important to all North Dakotans, and parents are the primary decision-makers in their children's well-being; and all parents can benefit from access to education on infant nutrition and wellness, which may include breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, major medical authorities recommend exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, with continued breastfeeding, as long as mutually desired by mother and child, for up to two years; and

WHEREAS, at the time of this proclamation, a recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention analysis of birth certificate data found that among infants born in 2019, 85% were breastfed; and

WHEREAS, the consistent and well-documented health, economic and environmental benefits of breastfeeding show that this is an investment that will continue to produce measurable dividends across society; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy that builds a foundation for lifelong health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, increasing evidence-based breastfeeding policies and practices in health care, public health and workplace settings will help build support for breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee designates August as "National Breastfeeding Month" and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action designates August 1-7 as "World Breastfeeding Week."

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim August 2023, BREASTFEEDING MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE