



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
BREASTFEEDING WEEK
AUGUST 1-7, 2018

WHEREAS, the first week of August is recognized as World Breastfeeding Week, a global initiative to raise awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding, as breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy, protecting both infants and mothers from a host of chronic and acute diseases and conditions, building a foundation for life-long health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate the 2018 World Breastfeeding Week theme, "Breastfeeding Foundation of Life;" and

WHEREAS, all major medical authorities recommend mothers breastfeed exclusively for six months and continue breastfeeding for at least the first year of a child's life; and

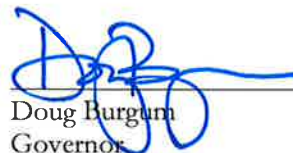
WHEREAS, women with infants and children are one of the fastest growing segments of the U.S. labor force, yet women cite returning to work as one of the primary reasons for not continuing to breastfeed to six months of age; and

WHEREAS, accommodations for breastfeeding at work benefit not only women and infants, but employers as well, as there are cost savings in terms of health care including less illness among breastfed infants, higher morale and a stronger sense of loyalty among female employees, and greater awareness of a positive, family-friendly image in the community; and

WHEREAS, federal law requires support at work for some mothers who breastfeed, including the provision of a location, other than a bathroom, and reasonable break times to express breast milk; and


WHEREAS, North Dakota employers who support breastfeeding mothers in the workplace can be designated as "Infant Friendly" by the North Dakota Department of Health; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2018, **BREASTFEEDING WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:



Alvin A. Jaegar
Secretary of State