

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### BROADBAND PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

JULY 21, 2020

WHEREAS, access to fast, reliable internet has become increasingly important in the educational, professional and personal lives of Americans, and in many cases is a modern necessity; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is a national leader in broadband connectivity; 95 percent of North Dakotans have access to broadband internet and a statewide network with 100-gigabit service covering state and local governments, K-12 education and higher education across the state; and

WHEREAS, broadband access is particularly important for North Dakota students in K-12 and higher education as they require access to online platforms and educational tools; and

WHEREAS, in the spring semester of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused an unprecedented disruption to North Dakota students and the traditional school delivery system; on March 16, 2020, all public K-12 schools closed to in-person instruction and transitioned to a distance learning model by April 1, 2020; and

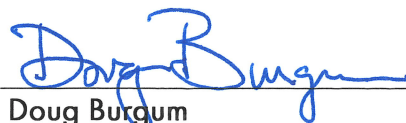
WHEREAS, in response to the unprecedented disruption to the traditional school delivery system caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, local broadband providers across the state assembled a slate of solutions to connect unserved student homes with broadband access, in many cases donating equipment, time and service for the benefit of North Dakota students; and

WHEREAS, more than 99 percent of all North Dakota K-12 students have had access to broadband internet to support their continued education in a distance learning environment; and

WHEREAS, fast, reliable internet access will remain an important element of North Dakotans' lives and education, and North Dakota is grateful for the reliable service and community-mindedness of our local broadband providers.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
July 21, 2020, BROADBAND PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger

SECRETARY OF STATE