

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH AWARENESS DAY MAY 14, 2023

WHEREAS, childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) is an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1 in 1,000 children, causing them to have significant difficulty learning to speak, and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and

WHEREAS, while the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak; and

WHEREAS, without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills and are at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling and other school-related skills; and

WHEREAS, such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved; and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide adequate speech therapy and other services so the impact of this disorder can be minimized, and with early interventions and appropriate speech therapy, most children with CAS will learn to communicate with their own voices; and

WHEREAS, public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in North Dakota is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice; and

WHEREAS, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
May 14, 2023, CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH AWARENESS DAY in the  
State of North Dakota.



A blue ink signature of Doug Burgum, written in a cursive style.

Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: A blue ink signature of Michael Howe, written in a cursive style.

Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE