

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2020

WHEREAS, a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) is a birth defect that occurs during fetal development causing a hole in an infant's diaphragm, allowing organs to migrate through the hole into the chest and, ultimately, may cause an infant's lungs to be small and underdeveloped; and

WHEREAS, researchers estimate that about 1 in every 3,600 babies is born with diaphragmatic hernia in the United States; about half of all newborns who have diaphragmatic hernia also have other conditions, including birth defects of the brain, heart and intestines; and

WHEREAS, though CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis, very few people are aware of this serious, life-threatening condition; and

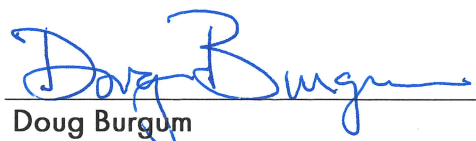
WHEREAS, many people living in North Dakota have been diagnosed with and survived their CDH; although many families in North Dakota have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and


WHEREAS, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems and developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
April 2020, CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH
in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE