NORTH DAKOTA

\equiv PROCLAMATION $\equiv\!\!\!-\!\!\!\!-$

CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH MONTH OCTOBER 2024

WHEREAS, about 20% of adults in the United States -1 in 5 – experience chronic pain, classified as pain lasting more than three months; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, musculoskeletal conditions, a common cause of chronic pain, result in more than 130 million health care visits annually, making them the No. 1 reason people visit their doctors; and

WHEREAS, low back pain, which ranks among the most common forms of chronic pain, has been one of the leading reasons people are prescribed opioids; and the number of people worldwide living with back pain is projected to increase by 36% to 843 million over the next 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the American College of Physicians low-back pain treatment guidelines promote the use of noninvasive, non-drug approaches such as spinal manipulation as a first line of defense against back pain, before the use of pain medications and surgery; and

WHEREAS, doctors of chiropractic play a key role in helping patients manage pain and lessen their reliance on prescription pain medications with their evidence-based, patient-centered, non-drug approach; and

WHEREAS, with the theme "Chiropractic: Plan for a Strong Healthspan," National Chiropractic Health Month 2024 reminds citizens of North Dakota that non-drug treatments for low back, neck and joint pain, such as spinal manipulation and other chiropractic services, can help relieve pain and restore joint function, helping people to resume their lives and the activities that matter most.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2024, CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Michael Howe

SECRETARY OF STATE

ATTEST: