

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

COATS' DISEASE AWARENESS DAY AUGUST 17, 2023

WHEREAS, among the debilitating eye diseases that affect North Dakotans and others throughout the country and around the world, Coats' Disease is a rare retinal disorder that primarily afflicts infants, young children and teenagers, most of them boys, but can affect adults as well; and

WHEREAS, Coats' Disease can cause blood vessels in one or both eyes to develop abnormally, causing leakage of blood into the eye resulting in trauma, damage, partial or total blindness or even removal of the eye without early detection, treatment or surgery; and

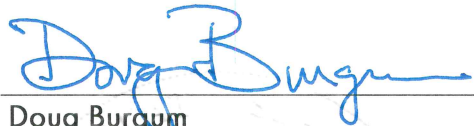
WHEREAS, Coats' Disease is still not widely known and can be misdiagnosed by some in the medical community, even among retinal specialists; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is committed to finding cures and treatments for many rare diseases or afflictions through scientific, academic and commercial endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Coats' Disease Awareness Day is an important tool for raising awareness among government officials, medical professionals, academic institutions, commercial ventures and the public about this rare disease to enable early detection, advance scientific research and treatment capabilities and eventually find a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim August 17, 2023, COATS' DISEASE AWARENESS DAY in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE