



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH**  
APRIL 2017

**WHEREAS**, one in every 2,500 pregnancies are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

**WHEREAS**, since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with CDH; however, only 50 percent of those babies survived; and

**WHEREAS**, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis; however, very few people are aware of it; and

**WHEREAS**, 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States; 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, 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 2017, **CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State