## STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA



## CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2019

WHEREAS, individuals with craniofacial differences and their families often struggle to understand what they are facing and how to move forward in their early stages of life; and

WHEREAS, due to the complexity of craniofacial syndromes, the majority of affected individuals will often endure up to 30-40 surgeries before they reach adulthood; and

WHEREAS, families with a member who has a craniofacial condition are often under emotional and financial strain due to demands resulting from ongoing and expensive medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, there is a lack of education and information disseminated to the general public about individuals with facial differences: and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Children's Craniofacial Association and others serve populations affected by craniofacial differences and the professions who care for them; and

WHEREAS, Craniofacial Acceptance Month is celebrated in September to bring awareness to the 100,000 children each year in the United States who are either born with or develop a craniofacial difference, or condition of the head and/or face, and to empower and give hope to individuals and families affected by these facial differences, while working toward the vision of a world where all people are accepted for who they are, not how they look.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2019, CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger Sausaua a Stigel
SECRETARY OF STATE Special Deputy