

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2021

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota recognizes that it has a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from and responding to cybersecurity threats that may significantly impact our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

WHEREAS, critical infrastructure is increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care and emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS, cybersecurity education and awareness is crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user and all who connect to the internet, whether with a computer, mobile phone or other internet-connected device; and

WHEREAS, monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls and using mobile devices safely are ways you can protect yourself from phishing, viruses, malware, financial loss and loss of sensitive data; and

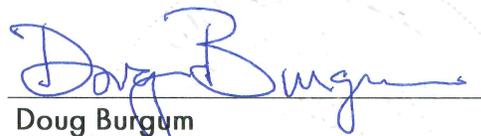
WHEREAS, the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofits, government organizations and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is a free resource to help organizations improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which everyone has a critical role to play, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of North Dakota's information, infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, October is recognized as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and all citizens are encouraged to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
October 2021, **CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE