

PROCLAMATION **CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH**OCTOBER 2018

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

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

WHEREAS, the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit and government organizations, as well as academic institutions working together to increase the understanding of cyberthreats and empowering the American public to be safer and more secure online; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework has been developed as a free resource to help organizations (large and small, both public and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing evolving threats and challenges; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us 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, the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (www.dhs.gov/cyber), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (msisac.cisecurity.org), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (www.nascio.org) and the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) all recognize October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month, and all citizens are encouraged to visit these websites, along with the North Dakota Information Technology Department website (https://www.nd.gov/itd/news/october-national-cybersecurity-awareness-month) and the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.TM Campaign website (www.stopthinkconnect.org) 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 2018, **CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State