

## DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH NOVEMBER 2021

WHEREAS, diabetes is growing at an epidemic rate in the United States; it is a serious and costly disease and is the seventh-leading cause of death by disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, diabetes affects 34.2 million people in the United States and an additional 88 million American adults are affected with pre-diabetes, a condition which puts them at greater risk for developing Type 2 diabetes; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota approximately 183,000 adults may not know they have diabetes and may experience damage to the heart, eyes, kidneys and limbs without any symptoms, and may incur 2.3 times greater health care costs; direct medical expenses for diabetes in North Dakota was estimated at \$408 million and another \$197 million in household productivity loss attributable to diabetes; and

WHEREAS, Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease in which a person's pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone that enables an individual's body to use energy from food; scientists believe that both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved, and there is no known prevention or cure; and

WHEREAS, T1D is found in both children and adults at any age and causes dependence on injected or pumped insulin for life, carrying the constant threat of devastating complications and bringing financial and emotional burden to individuals and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, 1.6 million Americans are living with T1D and over 50,000 people are diagnosed with T1D each year; the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports a steady increase in prevalence of T1D since 2001, most significantly a 30% rise in diagnosis rates from 2018 to 2020; and

WHEREAS, accessibility and affordability of diabetes-related prescriptions, diabetes care and diabetes management devices can significantly improve the ability of people with diabetes to effectively manage the disease before suffering devastating complications; currently less than one-third of people with T1D are achieving target blood-glucose control levels; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are encouraged to help fight the diabetes epidemic by increasing awareness of symptoms and risk factors for diabetes, by understanding T1D diabetes is not caused by diet or exercise and cannot be cured, and by providing support to all those suffering from diabetes.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 2021, DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE