

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 27– OCTOBER 3, 2021

WHEREAS, diaper need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of babies, toddlers and their families; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, 1 in 3 families struggles with diaper need, and 48% of families delay changing a diaper to extend the available supply; and

WHEREAS, infants and toddlers go through six to 12 diapers each day during the two to three years they wear diapers, and purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry and healthy can consume 14% of a low-wage family's post-tax income, making it difficult to provide the necessary supply; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, diaper banks across the country saw enormous increases in demand for diapers and expanded their distribution of diapers by an average of 86%; and

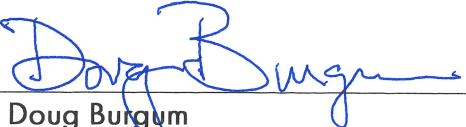
WHEREAS, a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in child care programs and quality early education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work; and

WHEREAS, the people of North Dakota recognize that diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state's families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations including Project BEE's Dakota Diaper Pantry and Great Plains Food Bank that recognize the importance of diapers in ensuring health and providing economic stability for families and thus distribute diapers to families through various channels.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
September 27- October 3, 2021, DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Alvin A. Jaeger  
SECRETARY OF STATE