

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH OCTOBER 2024

WHEREAS, employee stock ownership plans are employer-funded retirement programs that allow workers to accumulate significant amounts of capital stock in businesses where they work; and

WHEREAS, there are roughly 6,500 employee stock ownership plans for working men and women at 6,322 companies, covering 14.7 million participants and holding over \$2.1 trillion in assets; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership is a practice that is instrumental in helping Americans share in our nation's growth and prosperity while enjoying greater job security; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership provides a powerful incentive for thousands of North Dakotans to invest their talents and energies in their places of work, thus strengthening the competitive potential of our state's businesses; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership helps create and retain jobs in our state; and

WHEREAS, the impressive record of numerous employee-owned firms in benefiting their employees, their customers and their communities merits recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2024, EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE