

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

ENCEPHALITIS DAY FEBRUARY 22, 2023

WHEREAS, encephalitis is inflammation of the brain caused by an infection or through the immune system attacking the brain and can develop in anyone regardless of age, gender or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, encephalitis has a high death rate of up to 40 percent and a relapse rate of between 12 percent and 35 percent, and survivors may be left with an acquired brain injury and life-changing consequences, yet early diagnosis and treatment can save lives and improve outcomes; and

WHEREAS, infectious encephalitis symptoms may include: flu-like symptoms, loss of consciousness, high temperature, seizures, inability to speak or control movement, sensory changes or uncharacteristic behavior; and autoimmune encephalitis symptoms may include: confusion, altered personality or behavior, psychosis, movement disorders, seizures, hallucinations, memory loss or sleep disturbances; and

WHEREAS, encephalitis is complicated to diagnose and may be misdiagnosed; and it is difficult to treat the cause and the secondary complications of encephalitis, and recovery is a long and slow process, due to the time needed for the brain to heal; and

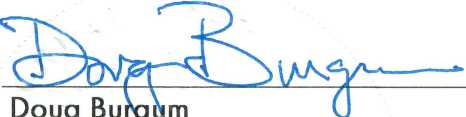
WHEREAS, in many countries, encephalitis is more common than ALS, multiple sclerosis, bacterial meningitis and cerebral palsy, yet 8 out of 10 people in the world have never heard of encephalitis; and


WHEREAS, World Encephalitis Day (WED) was launched in 2014 and is recognized annually on February 22, with the mission to raise global awareness about encephalitis and therefore save lives and build better futures; and

WHEREAS, in February 2020, encephalitis supporters wore red and walked in the inaugural Bismarck, North Dakota, Brain Walk to celebrate WED.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
February 22, 2023, ENCEPHALITIS DAY in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE