



State of  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**  
APRIL 2017

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and

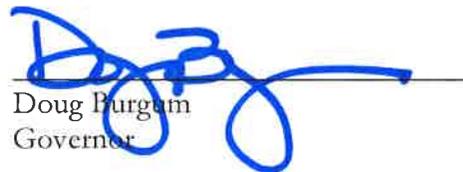
**WHEREAS**, despite its rapid increase and poor prognosis, esophageal cancer receives very little research funding. The National Cancer Institute Funded Research Portfolio shows esophageal cancer distribution at less than 1 percent of the total cancer funding dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the heartburn, difficult swallowing, cough, hoarse voice, sore throat or chest pain they suffer can be reasons to discuss screening for esophageal cancer with their medical care professional; and

**WHEREAS**, esophageal cancer is often discovered during advanced stages, but if discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far better, and treatments for the disease include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, laser therapy, and electrocoagulation; and

**WHEREAS**, during this month, we raise awareness of esophageal cancer in North Dakota, encouraging residents to pay attention to esophageal cancer symptoms in order to promote early detection and treatment.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2017, **ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State