WHEREAS, heterotaxy syndrome is a congenital condition that affects the development, placement and presence of internal organs; and

WHEREAS, heterotaxy syndrome affects many body systems and requires a team of many specialists for treatment; and

WHEREAS, families can often be the only common thread between medical specialties and may struggle to educate medical teams on their specific history and needs; and

WHEREAS, mortality related to heterotaxy syndrome is high, but due to lack of tracking and research, the exact numbers are unclear; and

WHEREAS, children with heterotaxy syndrome who survive to adulthood often find their condition largely unknown to the community; and

WHEREAS, funding into the causes of heterotaxy syndrome and holistic treatment options is low; and

WHEREAS, Heterotaxy Syndrome Awareness Day provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals and to meet others and know they are not alone; and

WHEREAS, Heterotaxy Syndrome Awareness Day provides the opportunity to share experience and information with the public and the media, in order to raise public awareness about heterotaxy syndrome.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 4, 2022, HETEROTAXY AWARENESS DAY in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE