

PROCLAMATION **HETEROTAXY SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY**MAY 4, 2018

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

WHEREAS, the public is relatively unaware of heterotaxy syndrome, including many medical professionals; and

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

WHEREAS, families struggle to educate medical teams and are often the only common thread between medical specialties; and

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

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

WHEREAS, funding into causes and holistic treatment of heterotaxy syndrome are 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 4, 2018, **HETEROTAXY SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgun

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State