

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION DAY

JUNE 19, 2020

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, more than two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Union General Gordon Granger led Union soldiers into Galveston, Texas, bringing news that the Civil War had ended and, as one of his first actions, read General Order #3, which stated that all slaves were free and that former masters and slaves have absolute equality of personal and property rights, announcing freedom to some of the last slaves in the United States; and

WHEREAS, following the issuance of General Order #3, June 19<sup>th</sup>, or Juneteenth, became the emancipation date of those long suffering under slavery and yearning for freedom and is now the oldest and most popular commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States, emphasizing education, achievement and tolerance; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is celebrated nationwide on June 19<sup>th</sup> of each year with prayer services, readings of the Emancipation Proclamation and community celebrations to recognize the triumph of the human spirit over slavery and to commemorate the strength and resolve of African Americans throughout our national history; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, during the 105<sup>th</sup> United States Congress, House Joint Resolution 56 and Senate Joint Resolution 11 were passed, officially recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day; and

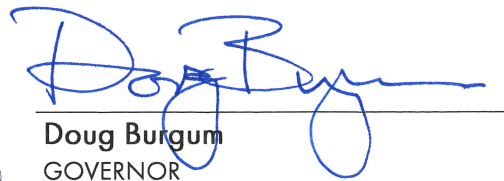
WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a time for all Americans to acknowledge a tragic period of injustice and inequality in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today and to celebrate African American history, culture, art and achievement, recognizing its integral place and influence on the American story at large; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans possess a deep belief in the ideals of democracy and liberty, justice and equality for all citizens regardless of race, color or creed, and we all benefit from a greater understanding and appreciation of diverse lived experiences; and

WHEREAS, the recognition and celebration of Juneteenth provides an opportunity for all citizens to renew our shared commitment to equality, reconcile with our past and pursue progress for a stronger, more just democracy.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
June 19, 2020, JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION DAY in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Alvin A. Jaeger  
SECRETARY OF STATE