NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

NORTH DAKOTA TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK MAY 19-25, 2024

WHEREAS, the travel and tourism industry is an essential part of North Dakota's diversified, statewide economy, supports community vitality, and is key to workforce recruitment and retention; and

WHEREAS, the tourism sector had an estimated \$5.7 billion in total economic impact for North Dakota and visitor spending grew to \$3.3 billion in 2023, with the 8.8% growth helping visitor spending surpass pre-pandemic levels; and

WHEREAS, travel generated \$307 million in taxable sales revenue and \$531 million in room night sales; and

WHEREAS, visitation grew 5.3%, with more than 25.6 million total visitors to North Dakota in 2023; and

WHEREAS, 76% of new residents have reported visiting North Dakota prior to moving to the state; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's tourism revenue sustains 3,011 businesses; and

WHEREAS, the hospitality industry supports quality of life for North Dakotans, with more than 43,000 jobs providing the entertainment, service and amenities that benefit visitors and residents; and given these significant contributions to North Dakota's economy and the social and cultural well-being of the citizens of North Dakota, we recognize the importance of the state's travel and tourism industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2024, NORTH DAKOTA TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

OF NORTH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE