NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

NORTH DAKOTA TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK MAY 1-7, 2022

WHEREAS, North Dakota Travel and Tourism Week celebrates the FUTURE OF TRAVEL and tourism's role in diversifying the North Dakota economy; and

WHEREAS, a robust travel industry provides significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than \$2.6 trillion annually in economic output prior to the pandemic, with \$1.2 trillion spent directly by travelers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, using GPS technology, arrivals to the state show that visitation was up 15.2 percent in 2021 with increases from 49 states; and

WHEREAS, travel in North Dakota attracted 21.71 million visitors to the state who spent \$2.61 billion in North Dakota in 2021, generating \$237.9 million in local and state taxes paid by visitors; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's tourism revenue sustains 2,700 small businesses and diversifies our state's economy; and

WHEREAS, travel continues to be impactful statewide, generating revenue through visitor spending in all 53 counties; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota Tourism continued to inspire potential visitors with a 25.6 percent increase in website traffic to NDTourism.com in 2021; and

WHEREAS, tourists or visitors are more likely to consider relocating to North Dakota for a career, to start a business, attend college or retire; and

WHEREAS, given these significant contributions to North Dakota's economy and the social and cultural well-being of the citizens of North Dakota, it is fitting that 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 1-7, 2022, NORTH DAKOTA TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE