## NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION ==

## NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK

NOVEMBER 7-13, 2021

WHEREAS, nurse practitioners (NPs) serve as trusted health care providers for patients in North Dakota; and NPs work to expand access to care in underserved communities, end health disparities and inequities in health care; and

WHEREAS, NPs are at the forefront of efforts to combat COVID-19, educating patients about prevention and ensuring the equitable distribution of vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, patients depend on more than 325,000 licensed NPs in the United States and 1,555 NPs in North Dakota to diagnose, manage and treat their chronic and acute health care conditions; and

WHEREAS, NPs provide high-quality primary, acute and specialty health care services while emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices every day; and

WHEREAS, the confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than 1 billion visits made annually to NPs across the country; and more than five decades of research confirms the high quality of care provided by NPs; and

WHEREAS, better utilization of NPs through modernized state laws and improved policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher-quality health care system; and

WHEREAS, including North Dakota, 23 states, the District of Columbia, the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam have implemented Full Practice Authority for NPs, granting patients full and direct access to the outstanding care offered by these health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, leading governmental and policy entities including the National Academy of Medicine, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Governors Association and Federal Trade Commission have taken notice of the benefits of providing patients full and direct access to NP care.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 7-13, 2021, NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE