

## PROCLAMATION POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

WHEREAS, throughout American history, generations of patriots have bravely served in our military and sacrificed much to protect our country and preserve democracy around the world; and

WHEREAS, some of those brave men and women who answered the call to service were captured in conflict and imprisoned by our enemies; some never returned from the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, our nation remains steadfast in its commitment to leave no service member behind; our men and women in uniform uphold this pledge every day, and our country further upholds it as we honor all those who serve, particularly those taken as prisoners of war or missing in action; and

WHEREAS, today and every day, we pay tribute to the American men and women who have not returned to the country they so valiantly defended, and we express profound gratitude to those who returned after facing unimaginable hardships. We will never forget the sacrifices they made to keep this nation free; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we honor those Americans who were prisoners of war and recognize them for the courage and determination they showed while enduring unspeakable conditions, and we honor those who remain unaccounted for, especially remembering the sacrifices of their families who face each day without knowing the fate of their loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, all North Dakotans are encouraged to honor our servicemen and servicewomen for their courageous and selfless sacrifice, and especially those who have paid so high a price in service to this great nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** as Governor of the State of North Dakota. I do hereby proclaim, September 15, 2017, **POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

special Deputy