State of North Dakota

Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK
OCTOBER 8-14, 2017

WHEREAS, Plasma Awareness Week is observed throughout the United States and is designed to raise awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases, recognize the contributions of plasma donors for saving and improving lives, and increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat; and

WHEREAS, plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist, save and improve lives of individuals throughout North Dakota and the United States; and
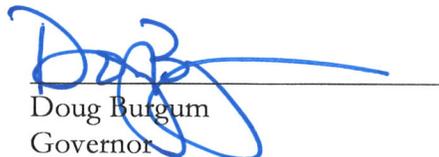
WHEREAS, plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary angioedema, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, and Rh negative pregnancies; and

WHEREAS, these therapies substantially increase quality of life, extend life expectancy, and improve patient outcomes for an estimated 300 individuals in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, each year approximately 1,500 pregnant women in North Dakota receive a plasma protein therapy to protect mother and baby from complications due to incompatible blood types; and
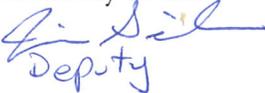
WHEREAS, there are four plasma donation centers in North Dakota certified under the International Quality Plasma Program where healthy and committed donors provide plasma that is used to manufacture high-impact, life-saving therapies.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2017, **PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State

Deputy