



— State of —
North Dakota

Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum

Governor

PROCLAMATION
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY
JANUARY 16, 2019

WHEREAS, the right to religious freedom has been an important part of America's historical roots; and

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers understood the importance of freedom of religion within a stable democracy, and the United States Constitution and the North Dakota Constitution protect individuals' right to worship as they choose, regardless of belief, faith or denomination; and

WHEREAS, January 16 celebrates the anniversary of the 1786 Virginia Statute on Religious Freedom that restrained the practice of taxing people to pay for the support of the local clergy, and protected the civil rights of people to express their religious beliefs without suffering discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America declares January 16 each year to be "Religious Freedom Day" and calls upon Americans to "observe this day through appropriate events and activities in homes, schools and places of worship."

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim January 16, 2019, **RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY** in the State of North Dakota.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Burgum".

Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alvin A. Jaeger".

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State