

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

RURAL HEALTH DAY

NOVEMBER 16, 2023

WHEREAS, rural communities in North Dakota and throughout the United States are great places to live, work and volunteer; and

WHEREAS, nearly 61 million people (19.7% of the population) and 86% of the country's land area are considered rural; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's 270,000 rural citizens — as estimated by the North Dakota State Data Center based on 2020 U.S. Census data — possess a selfless, creative and community-minded spirit; and

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of our citizens are of utmost importance to our great state; and

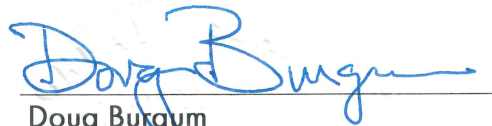
WHEREAS, rural communities often face accessibility issues, health care provider shortages, transportation barriers, an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, rural communities are resilient, resourceful, innovative and collaborative, addressing local challenges with creative solutions; and rural America is a great place for dedicated health professionals to deliver essential health services and provide comprehensive, individualized care; and

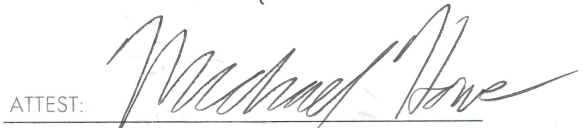
WHEREAS, National Rural Health Day, founded by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) and celebrated annually on the third Thursday of November, serves as a reminder of the unique needs and opportunities that rural communities face in accessing quality health care services.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
November 16, 2023, **RURAL HEALTH DAY** in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 

Michael Howe

SECRETARY OF STATE