NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2022

WHEREAS, sepsis is a life-threatening complication of the body's overwhelming response to an infection, which, without rapid diagnosis and treatment, can quickly progress to tissue damage, organ failure and death; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sepsis affects 1.7 million Americans and takes 350,000 adult lives every year in the United States – more than the loss of life from prostate cancer, breast cancer and opioid overdoses combined; and each year, more than 75,000 children in the United States develop severe sepsis and 6,800 of these children die, more than from pediatric cancers; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota, the mortality rate from sepsis in 2019 was 10.6 per 100,000 total population, relatively comparable to other leading causes of death in the state in the same year, such as hypertension and cirrhosis of the liver; and

WHEREAS, sepsis survivors have a shortened life expectancy, are more likely to suffer from an impaired quality of life, and often experience after-effects such as amputations — 14,000 per year in the United States — and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; and

WHEREAS, despite the severe danger and widespread occurrence of this illness, a survey conducted by Sepsis Alliance found that less than 15 percent of adults in the United States can identify the symptoms of sepsis; and

WHEREAS, one can remember the signs and symptoms of sepsis using "Sepsis: It's About TIME," which stands for "Temperature," "Infection," "Mental decline" and "Extremely ill"; and

WHEREAS, awareness of the signs and symptoms of sepsis along with rapid diagnosis and treatment of sepsis can save lives and improve outcomes for sepsis survivors, as the risk of mortality from sepsis increases by between 4 percent and 9 percent for every hour treatment is delayed.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 2022, SEPSIS AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE