

PROCLAMATION SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH APRIL 2017

WHEREAS, every citizen of every age has the right to live free of violence at home and in neighborhoods, schools and communities across North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects all citizens of North Dakota, no matter our racial, social, ethnic, geographic or economic differences; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our communities about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and about how to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, state and local government, victim service providers, criminal justice officials and concerned citizens across the state are working together to continue to strengthen North Dakota's sexual assault laws and to provide valuable support and services to the survivors of sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to get involved and to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about sexual assault, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how we can work together to better address sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual assault through prevention education, increased awareness and ensuring justice for victims of violence by holding perpetrators responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, this month, let us remember the victims of sexual assault, celebrate the survivors and work together to eliminate violence in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2017, SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgun

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State