NORTH DAKOTA

== PROCLAMATION ===

SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER DAY OCTOBER 15, 2022

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers, firefighters, public service utility workers, emergency medical personnel, highway crews and tow operators conduct valuable and often life-saving operations at the roadside; and these personnel are called to duty at all hours of the day and night, in adverse weather conditions, and in dangerous roadside environments; and

WHEREAS, work space is often limited within the highway right of way, placing workers, disabled vehicles and their passengers dangerously close to passing vehicles; and across the country, emergency workers, incident responders and highway workers are put at risk, often resulting in injury or death; and

WHEREAS, the towing industry is 15 times deadlier than all other private industries combined, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, one death on North Dakota roadways is too many, because when it comes to the lives of family and friends, zero fatalities is the only acceptable number; and

WHEREAS, Section 39-10-26 of the North Dakota Century Code prohibits the endangerment of workers where highway construction, maintenance, utility work, accident response or other incident response is being performed; and Section 39-10-26 of the North Dakota Century Code requires drivers of vehicles to slow down and move over when encountering authorized emergency vehicles; and

WHEREAS, while all 50 states have "Slow Down, Move Over" laws, fewer than 30 percent of Americans know these laws, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and there is a need for the public to be educated on the dangers of failing to abide by these laws and how to practice safe driving behavior by moving over for all disabled vehicles regardless of type or the lights they display; and

WHEREAS, the third Saturday in October is recognized as national "Slow Down, Move Over Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 15, 2022, SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER DAY in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE