NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

SOCIAL WORK MONTH

MARCH 2022

WHEREAS, the social work profession is dedicated to strengthening the well-being and meeting the basic needs of all people, especially people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, the social work profession is one of the fastest-growing professions in the United States, with more than 715,000 social workers today and nearly 800,000 professionals expected to be employed as social workers by 2028; and

WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States, working daily to elevate and empower people with substance use disorders, mental illnesses and personal obstacles by providing appropriate and needed resources; and

WHEREAS, social work is a diverse profession allowing people of various generations, ethnicities, gender identities and religious backgrounds to make an immediate, positive impact on our nation and world, meeting people where they are and empowering them to live to their fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, the nature of the social work profession places social workers in a variety of settings, including schools, centers for veterans, the military, hospitals and mental health centers, corporations and local, state and federal government; and

WHEREAS, social workers work with other professions, community groups, lawmakers, civil rights and other organizations to bring equal rights for all, including women and people who are African American, Hispanic, Native American, LGBTQ and of various cultural, ethnic and religious groups; and

WHEREAS, the social work profession for more than a century has been on the cutting edge of helping create changes that have made our society a better place to live, including voting rights, improved workplace safety and social programs that help ameliorate poverty and hunger; and

WHEREAS, social workers continue to stand ready to help our nation in times of crisis, contributing to the success of our state and nation as they protect the most vulnerable among us.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2022, SOCIAL WORK MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

Alvin A. Jaeger

SECRETARY OF STATE