## NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION ===

## STEPFAMILY DAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

WHEREAS, approximately half of all Americans are currently involved in some form of stepfamily relationship, and it is important that the dynamics and structure of these families are accepted and supported so that all families may be successful; and

WHEREAS, thousands upon thousands of loving stepparents and stepchildren in the United States are daily reminders of the joy, trials and triumphs of the stepfamily experience and of the boundless love contained in the bond between all types of parents and children; and

WHEREAS, National Stepfamily Day, celebrated annually on September 16 since 1997, is enhanced by a strong commitment to support the stepfamilies of the United States in their mission to raise their children, create strong family structures to support the individual members of the family, and instill in them a sense of responsibility to all extended family members; and

WHEREAS, Stepfamily Day is a day to celebrate the many invaluable contributions stepfamilies have made to enrich the lives and life experiences of the children and parents of America and to strengthening the fabric of American families and society.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 16, 2022, STEPFAMILY DAY in the State of North Dakota.

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Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE