## NORTH DAKOTA

## = PROCLAMATION ===

## WOUND CARE AWARENESS WEEK

JUNE 5-9, 2023

WHEREAS, it is estimated that nearly 7 million people currently live with chronic wounds and that number is expected to grow at more than 2 percent annually for the next decade; and

WHEREAS, the rising incidence is fueled by an aging population and increasing rates of diseases and conditions such as diabetes, obesity and the late effects of radiation therapy; and

WHEREAS, untreated chronic wounds can lead to diminished quality of life and possible amputation of the affected limb; and

WHEREAS, the chronic wound epidemic represents a cost of more than \$50 billion to the health care system; and

WHEREAS, more than 37.3 million people, or 11.3% of population, have diabetes in the United States, and advanced wound care aims to prevent amputations and heal patients in a faster and more cost-effective way; and

WHEREAS, wound care physicians and health care providers take great pride in caring for their patients and seeing their patients succeed; and

WHEREAS, awareness and education about chronic wounds will benefit current and future chronic wound patients; and the goal of Wound Care Awareness Week is to inform patients, their families, community physicians and the general public about the importance of advanced wound care and its ability to save lives and limbs.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim June 5-9, 2023, WOUND CARE AWARENESS WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

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Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE