STATE OF
NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

DISASTER MITIGATION AND RESILIENCY WEEK
SEPTEMBER 1-7, 2019

WHEREAS, hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters and is most effective when implemented under a comprehensive, long-term mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is designed to assist states and local communities in implementing a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program; and

WHEREAS, recently enacted federal legislation, the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, makes available new dollars for states and communities to undertake pre-disaster mitigation measures and creates new incentives for states to build resilience; and

WHEREAS, since 1908, natural disasters have cost the country more than $1 trillion dollars; and disasters affect local and state economies in lost payrolls, lost sales and income tax and increased disaster recovery times; and 25 percent of small businesses impacted by natural disasters never reopen; and

WHEREAS, according to a FEMA-commissioned study by the National Institute of Building Sciences, every dollar spent on hazard mitigation provides the nation $6 in future benefits; and mitigation planning is a key process used to break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction and repeated damage; and

WHEREAS, effective pre-disaster mitigation reduces the demand for relief services on volunteer organizations such as disaster rescue and recovery teams, food banks and homeless shelters who serve our communities by providing services to those affected by disaster; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota communities are encouraged to build resilience and develop long-range mitigation strategies for protecting people and property from future hazard events.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 1-7, 2019, **DISASTER MITIGATION AND RESILIENCY WEEK** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE