

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA AWARENESS DAY

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

WHEREAS, cholangiocarcinoma is a rare cancer which starts in the bile duct, a thin tube about 4 to 5 inches long that reaches from the liver to the small intestine, of which the major function of the bile duct is to move a fluid called bile from the liver and gallbladder to the small intestine, where it helps digest the fats in food; and

WHEREAS, there are three types of cholangiocarcinoma: intrahepatic, extrahepatic and perihilar, and there is currently no cure for cholangiocarcinoma/bile duct cancer; and

WHEREAS, the mortality rate has increased dramatically in the last decade — cholangiocarcinoma has a five-year survival rate of approximately 20%; and

WHEREAS, the chances of survival for patients with bile duct cancer depends to a large extent on its location and how advanced it is when it is found; and

WHEREAS, patients are typically diagnosed at a late stage due to no validated early method of detection; however, jaundice, abdominal pain, itchy skin and weight loss are symptoms that may present in advanced disease progression; and

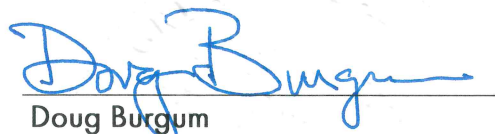
WHEREAS, an estimated 10,000 people in the United States develop cholangiocarcinoma each year, and almost 2 out of 3 people with cholangiocarcinoma are 65 or older when it is found; and


WHEREAS, foundations, research and teaching hospitals, rare cancer advocacy groups and patient advocacy groups from around the globe have joined forces to recognize the third Thursday of February as Cholangiocarcinoma Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, increased cholangiocarcinoma advocacy, awareness, research and education will bring improved outcomes for patients in earlier detection and treatment and potential curative methods.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim February 15, 2024, **CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA AWARENESS DAY** in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE