

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 1-31, 2024

WHEREAS, the brave men and women who serve as North Dakota firefighters put their lives on the line to confront the immediate dangers of fire outbreaks for the sake of others; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota firefighters serve local communities, putting others' safety above their own while working in toxic environments of smoke, soot and other carcinogens; and

WHEREAS, studies have found a direct correlation between the chemical exposures firefighters experience on the job and their increased risk of cancer; and

WHEREAS, research has shown firefighters have a 9% greater chance of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14% greater chance of dying from cancer than the general population; and

WHEREAS, firefighter occupational cancer is the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths among professional firefighters and continues to impact local heroes; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota recognizes cancer as a presumptive workers' compensation claim for firefighters; and

WHEREAS, early detection of cancer through routine screening can lead to earlier treatment and better disease outcomes, including improved survival and reduced morbidity.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
January 1-31, 2024, FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Doug Burgum".

Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael Howe".

ATTEST:

Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE