

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2025

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system and lifelong mental health; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill or psychosocial dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, according to a national prevalence study published in the Journal of Pediatrics, conservative evaluations estimate that more than 1 in 37 children under the age of 5 and more than 1 in 5 children with a chronic disease experience severe PFD in the United States annually; and

WHEREAS, every bite of food for children with PFD can be painful, scary or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, families navigating PFD often feel isolated and overwhelmed, struggling to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational and social issues related to PFD; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness for PFD will help create a world in which children with PFD will thrive by accelerating identification, igniting research and promoting collaborative care and support for children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2025, PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH
in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE