

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER DAY OCTOBER 19, 2024

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers, firefighters, public service utility workers, emergency medical personnel, highway crews and tow operators conduct valuable and often life-saving operations at the roadside; and these personnel are called to duty at all hours of the day and night, in adverse weather conditions and in dangerous roadside environments; and

WHEREAS, work space is often limited within the highway right of way, placing disabled vehicles and their passengers dangerously close to passing vehicles; and across the country, emergency workers, incident responders and highway workers are put at risk, often resulting in injury or death; and

WHEREAS, the towing industry is 15 times deadlier than all the other private industries combined, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, one death on North Dakota roadways is too many, because when it comes to the lives of family and friends, zero fatalities is the only acceptable number; and

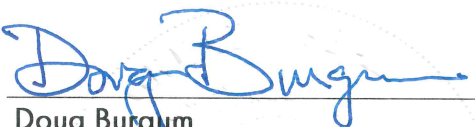
WHEREAS, Section 39-10-26 of the North Dakota Century Code prohibits the endangerment of workers where highway construction, maintenance, utility work, accident response or other incident response is being performed; and Section 39-10-26 of the North Dakota Century Code requires drivers of vehicles to slow down and move over when encountering authorized emergency vehicles; and

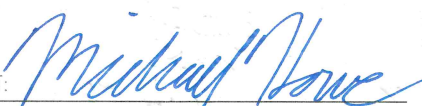
WHEREAS, In 2023, North Dakota enhanced roadside safety by expanding the Move Over Law to include moving over for any stopped motor vehicle with flashing hazard warning signals when stopped along the interstate system or on a multi-lane highway outside the limits of a city; and drivers are required to move over to an adjacent lane and reduce their speed to a safe level before passing any vehicle with flashing hazards stopped on the side of the road; and

WHEREAS, while 50 states have "Slow Down, Move Over" laws, fewer than 30% of Americans know these laws, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; and there is a need for the public to be educated on the dangers of failing to abide by these laws and how to practice safe driving behavior by moving over for all disabled vehicles regardless of type or the lights they display.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
October 19, 2024, **SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER DAY** in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE