WHEREAS, nurse practitioners (NPs) serve as trusted frontline health care providers for North Dakota patients, and North Dakota is proud to recognize and honor the service of NPs to our state; and

WHEREAS, NPs are highly skilled practitioners with advanced education and clinical training building upon their initial registered nurse preparation; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 270,000 licensed NPs in the United States, and 1,210 in North Dakota providing primary, acute and specialty care to patients of all ages and walks of life; and

WHEREAS, in addition to diagnosing and treating acute and chronic conditions, NPs focus on health promotion, disease prevention and health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS, the confidence that patients have in NP-delivered health care is evidenced by the more than 1 billion annual patient visits made to NPs across the country; and more than five decades of research demonstrates the high quality of care provided by NPs; and

WHEREAS, better utilization of NPs through modernized state laws and improved system policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher quality health care system; and

WHEREAS, 25 states and U.S. territories, including North Dakota, have implemented Full Practice Authority for NPs, granting patients full and direct access to the outstanding care offered by these health care providers; and

WHEREAS, leading governmental and policy entities including the National Academy of Medicine, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, National Governors Association and Federal Trade Commission have taken notice of the benefits of NP Full Practice Authority and have endorsed such a regulatory model.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 10-16, 2019, NURSE PRACTITIONERS WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE