

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH NOVEMBER 2021

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in North Dakota and the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 2,440 new lung cancer cases and 1,575 deaths because of lung cancer between 2013 and 2017 in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is approximately 59%, yet only approximately 17% of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage; and

WHEREAS, screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest X-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; and

WHEREAS, funding for lung cancer research trails behind funding for research of many other cancers, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening and treatment for lung cancer as well as in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities; and

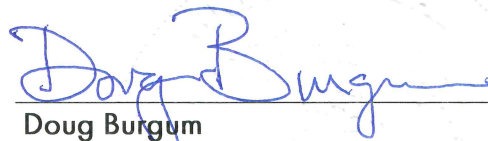
WHEREAS, lung cancer incidence is decreasing twice as fast in men as it is in women; each year more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer, and by 2035 more women will die from lung cancer than men; African Americans have the highest lung cancer incidence and mortality of all races, and disparities in lung cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment and mortality are well-characterized among African Americans and other racial minorities; and


WHEREAS, lung cancer in never smokers is the seventh-leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for between 17,000 and 26,000 deaths in the United States every year; between 60% and 70% of never smokers diagnosed with lung cancer are women, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in never smokers is increasing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, all North Dakotans are encouraged to learn about lung cancer and early detection through lung cancer screening; organizations such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum are committed to educating about lung cancer and working to increase lung cancer screening rates in North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
November 2021, LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE