NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION ===

AVIATION MONTH MARCH 2022

WHEREAS, the state of North Dakota has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organization, public airports and airport operations; and

WHEREAS, the aviation and aerospace industry continue to play an increasing role as an economic catalyst in North Dakota, creating over 32,000 jobs and contributing an estimated \$3.6 billion annually to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, there are 89 public-use airports in North Dakota, serving approximately 4,000 in-state pilots and over 2,200 based aircraft; and

WHEREAS, 1.8 million passengers utilized commercial air transportation within North Dakota in 2021 and contributed an estimated \$500 million to the state's economy through commercial passenger visitor spending; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is a leader in world-class aviation education opportunities, product development and technological advancement; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to one of the leading Unmanned Aircraft System test sites in the nation where research is being conducted to help integrate this new industry into the national airspace system; and

WHEREAS, aviation is also an essential part of North Dakota's agricultural productivity as 95 aerial applicator businesses provided services to approximately 2.5 million acres of cropland in 2021; and

WHEREAS, communities within North Dakota depend heavily on their community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2022, AVIATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE