

PROCLAMATION **ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY AWARENESS MONTH**NOVEMBER 2018

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is one of the most common and serious hereditary disorders in the world and can result in life-threatening lung disease in adults and liver disease in both children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 has been identified in nearly all populations and ethnic groups, it is estimated that about 1 in every 2,500 Americans have Alpha-1 and up to 6 percent of Caucasians in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene and may pass the gene on to their children; and

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 is widely underdiagnosed and misdiagnosed; fewer than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been diagnosed, and it often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms appear before proper diagnosis is made, which can be done using a simple blood test; and

WHEREAS, it is important to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary and misdiagnosed disorder; and

WHEREAS, during the month of November, a nationwide awareness campaign will take place to educate the public and medical community on Alpha-1 detection and treatment for those affected by this condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 2018, **ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgun

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger & Secretary of State