



**EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-07**

**WHEREAS**, the state of Texas has issued a disaster declaration and requested assistance through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC); and

**WHEREAS**, the state of North Dakota has a long history of assisting other states and territories in their time of need; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last four years, drug overdose deaths in the United States have increased from 67,367 in 2018 to more than 105,000 in 2022, according to provisional data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the state of North Dakota has experienced a similar increase of drug overdoses during that same time with almost all of these overdoses involving illicit substances such as fentanyl and methamphetamine; and

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of these dangerous substances are trafficked through the southwest border into the United States and into North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a risk to public safety due to drug trafficking, including deadly fentanyl making its way across the southern border and into U.S. communities, and the increased risk of human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, indigenous populations within the state of North Dakota are disproportionately affected by drug use and human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to address the humanitarian crisis at the southern border and the negative impacts of increased illegal immigration, human trafficking and drug trafficking on public safety and crime in states including North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS**, state, tribal, county, and local agencies have been expending significant resources to combat the fentanyl crisis.

**NOW THEREFORE**, Doug Burgum, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, by virtue of the authority vested under Article V, Section 1, North Dakota Constitution and Chapter 37-17.1, North Dakota Century Code, hereby declares a statewide emergency. All state agencies are ordered to provide response resources and capabilities pursuant to their respective responsibilities as may be deemed necessary by the Governor. I further authorize the Adjutant General to activate and make available North Dakota National Guard resources to be utilized in preparation of, and in support of, the state of Texas' EMAC request.

This order is issued pursuant to the following authority and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and,
2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency, as well as support other states during disasters or emergencies through EMAC, pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and,
3. A coordinated and effective effort of all state departments as required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this state.

This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until it is rescinded.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, the 13th day of June, 2023.

  
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Doug Burgum  
Governor

Attest:

  
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Michael Howe  
Secretary of State

Michael Howe  
Secretary of State