

**EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

WHEREAS, travel and tourism are major drivers of South Dakota's economy The small businesses comprising the travel and tourism industry in the state welcome visitors from around the world to explore South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, a robust travel industry provides significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than \$2.6 trillion in economic output. tourism serves as one of the largest private-sector employers in the U.S., supporting 17 million jobs, including 49,500 jobs in South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, spending by travelers has aided state and local governments alike, generating \$180 billion in tax revenue to support essential services and programs in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, by remaining open and free, South Dakota welcomed 12.6 million visitors who spent \$3.4 billion in South Dakota in 2020, amounting to \$276 million in state and local taxes, which eased the tax burden on each South Dakota household by \$780; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota was one of the best performing states in 2020, saw fewer declines in visitors and visitor spending compared to the national averages, ranked third in domestic bookings, and saw an increase of 31% in state park visitation; and,

WHEREAS, travel and tourism will drive South Dakota and the United States to a more prosperous future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2-8, 2021, as

NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

in South Dakota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this twenty-first day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.





Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:



Steven J. Barnett
Secretary of State