

EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, the safety of farm and agricultural workers is important to South Dakota, and it takes only seconds to be completely engulfed in flowing grain or overcome by oxygen-deficient atmospheres; and

WHEREAS, due to increased training and more public awareness, deaths from grain bin entrapments declined until 2014. That year saw 38 documented entrapments nationally, resulting in 17 deaths; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, there were 61 documented cases, an increase of 13 percent over the 54 cases reported in 2017. Of these cases, there were 30 documented grain entrapment cases. 50 percent of the 30 victims entrapped in grain ended up being a fatality; and

WHEREAS, Grain Bin Safety Week is an annual observance that occurs the third full week of February to promote grain bin safety on farms and commercial grain-handling facilities; and

WHEREAS, grain operators, farmers and employees are encouraged to help reduce the number of preventable injuries and deaths associated with grain handling and storage, through education and awareness of hazards and safe work practices; and

WHEREAS, Grain Bin Safety Week is a collaborative effort by industry leaders and agricultural professionals working together; and

WHEREAS, through education and awareness of hazards and safe work practices and procedures, we hope to reduce the number of preventable injuries and deaths associated with grain handling and storage.

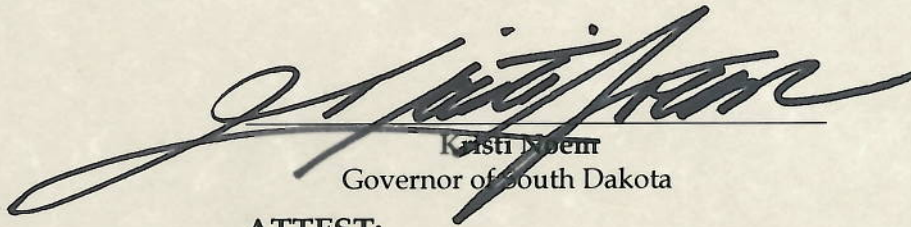
NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 22, 2020, as

GRAIN BIN SAFETY WEEK

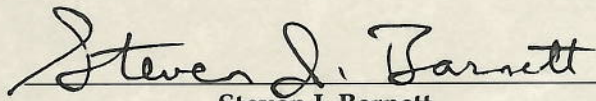
in South Dakota.

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 Twentieth Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.




Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:


Steven J. Barnett
Secretary of State