

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, an estimated 54 million Americans have osteoporosis or low bone mass, and studies suggest that approximately one in two women and up to one in four men aged 50 and older will break a bone due to osteoporosis; and,

Whereas, approximately 1.8 million Medicare beneficiaries suffered nearly 2.1 million osteoporotic fractures a year. Osteoporosis-related bone fractures are responsible for more hospitalizations than heart attacks, strokes, or breast cancer; and,

Whereas, the total annual cost for osteoporotic fractures among Medicare beneficiaries was \$57 billion in 2018 and is expected to grow to over \$95 billion in 2040 without reforms, as the population ages; and,

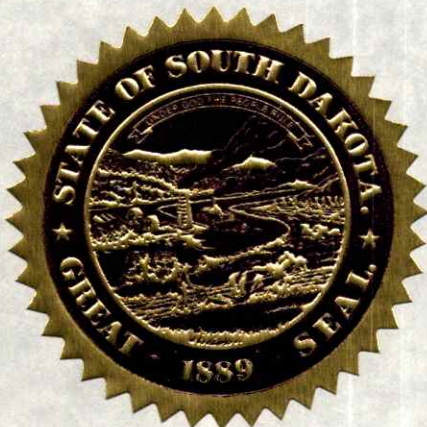
Whereas, osteoporosis and the broken bones it can cause are not part of normal aging. Building strong bones begins in childhood and is essential to the prevention of osteoporosis. Care for our bones is important throughout our lives, but we reach our peak bone mass by early adulthood; and,

Whereas, it is crucial that we raise awareness about bone health and osteoporosis among the public, health professionals, and policy makers:

Now, Therefore, I, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2025, as

**OSTEOPOROSIS AWARENESS AND
PREVENTION MONTH**

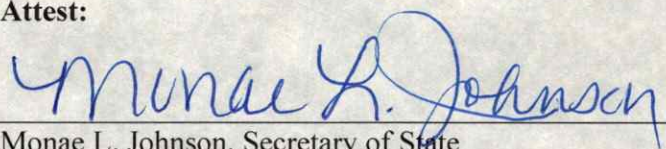
in South Dakota and encourage observation of appropriate good health programs and activities with respect to promoting good bone health through the lifetime and preventing and controlling osteoporosis.



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 Seventeenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.


Larry Rhoden, Governor

Attest:


Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State