

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

**WHEREAS**, the goal of National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week is to work side-by-side in every state to heighten public awareness, strengthen alliances, leverage resources, and increase the number of people who understand the vital role adult education and family literacy plays in our nation's well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, adult education and family literacy supports jobs and benefits the economy with increased tax revenues, business productivity, and decreased public assistance. It drives economic mobility for adults and economic recovery for America; and

**WHEREAS**, adult education programs in South Dakota assist in building skills and earnings. These credentials lead to postsecondary education, sustainable employment, and economic self-sufficiency. The need for highly literate South Dakotans increases as we move toward an increasingly technological future; and

**WHEREAS**, workers with at least a high school diploma or its equivalency are less likely to be on government support, saving states and federal government money. Individuals benefit from higher salaries, better job opportunities, higher savings, and improved working conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 15 percent of the adults in South Dakota experience literacy issues, and 24 percent experience numeracy issues that severely impact their lives and families, their ability to work productively, and their full participation as citizens and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, teaching parents reading strategies increases a child's language and literacy outcomes. There is no substitute for the parent's role as a child's first teacher, best coach, and most concerned advocate; and

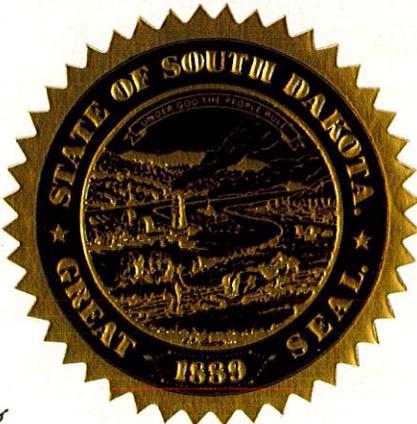
**WHEREAS**, through a network of partnerships, the Department of Labor and Regulation has served more than 2,335 students in adult education programs since July 2019, including 168 who received their GED® credential and more than 563 who studied English as a Second Language; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM**, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 20 - 26, 2020, as

**ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY 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 Fourth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.



Kristi Noem  
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:

Steven J. Barnett  
Secretary of State