



WHEREAS, *Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (MLPW) is a time of recognition for the over 320,000 medical laboratory professionals and 21,000 board-certified pathologists who play a vital role in every aspect of health care; and*

WHEREAS, *over the past 49 years the goals for MLPW have been to recognize these professionals' dedication their vital contributions to the field, to call the public's attention to the medical laboratory professional 's role in patient care, and to enhance their overall image; and*

WHEREAS, *the diversified employees of the laboratory include pathologists, medical laboratory scientists, histologists, cytotechnologists, microbiologists, medical laboratory technicians, laboratory assistants, phlebotomists, medical secretaries, transcriptionists, and laboratory clerical staff who perform their duties 24 hours per day every day of the year; and*

WHEREAS, *these highly trained and dedicated professionals make an invaluable contribution to quality health care and save countless lives each day by providing reliable laboratory test results required for prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease; and*

WHEREAS, *laboratory test results are vital to the diagnosis and treatment of illness and disease and comprise an estimated 94% of the patient's medical records; and*

WHEREAS, *more than 14 billion laboratory tests are performed in the United States each year and 26,000 new laboratory professionals will be needed annually to meet the growing need of the United States' population, while only 4,000 to 6,000 graduates will join the workforce each year;*

NOW, THEREFORE I, *Steve Gander, Mayor of the city of East Grand Forks, of the great State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 14-20, 2024 as*

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

and urge all citizens to recognize and support the vital service provided by the laboratory practitioner for the benefit of all citizens.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed this the (day) of (month), 2024.