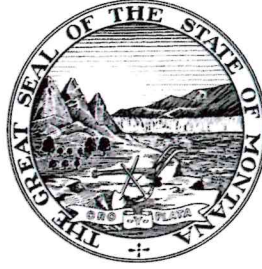


STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, farmers and ranchers provide Montanans with access to fresh, healthy, locally and regionally produced foods through farmers markets; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets strengthen our food systems and local economies, generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and ranches and stimulating business development and job creation; and

WHEREAS, farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide Montana agricultural producers another way to showcase their high quality, made-in-Montana products; and

WHEREAS, a study commissioned by the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research found Montana farmers markets generated \$17.3 million in revenue for vendors in 2021 and an additional \$10.4 million in new spending from resident wages, tax payments, sales, and investments, and supported 260 full-time Montana jobs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim August 6-11, 2023 as

FARMERS MARKET WEEK

in Montana to encourage Montanans to shop locally at farmers markets.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Greg Gianforte". The signature is stylized and includes a large flourish above the name.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor