

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine, with just two milligrams of fentanyl considered a potentially lethal dose; and

WHEREAS, powdered fentanyl looks like many other drugs, and is commonly mixed with other illicit drugs that resemble legitimate prescription opioids; and

WHEREAS, since 2019, Montana has experienced an 11,000 percent increase in fentanyl seizures, with three times the amount of fentanyl seized in 2022 compared to 2021; and

WHEREAS, deaths due to fentanyl have also increased in Montana in recent years, with fatal overdoses up 1100 percent since 2017; and

WHEREAS, to crack down on fentanyl traffickers, we strengthened Montana law this year to impose a mandatory minimum sentence of two years of jail time, a \$50,000 fine, or both, for anyone convicted of trafficking fentanyl in Montana;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of Montana do hereby proclaim August 21, 2023,

FENTANYL PREVENTION AND AWARENESS DAY

to promote public awareness on the dangers of fentanyl.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor