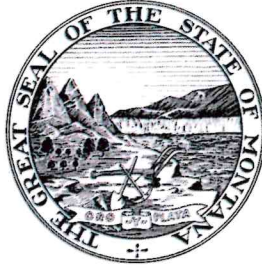


STATE OF MONTANA



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 a 20,000 percent increase in fentanyl seizures, with over double the amount of fentanyl seized in 2023 compared to 2022; and

WHEREAS, deaths due to fentanyl have also increased in Montana in recent years, with fatal overdoses up 1,900 percent since 2017; and

WHEREAS, to crack down on fentanyl traffickers, we strengthened Montana law in 2023 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 the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim August 21, 2024

FENTANYL PREVENTION AND AWARENESS DAY

in Montana to promote public awareness on the dangers of fentanyl.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor