

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, the state motto of Montana is “Oro y Plata,” Spanish for “gold and silver,” and proudly known as the “Treasure State” reflecting Montana’s rich mining heritage and abundant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the discovery of gold in the 1860s brought many of the first settlers to Montana; and

WHEREAS, Montana’s mining industry has long supplied the nation with critical mineral resources, including copper from Butte, smelted in Anaconda and refined in Great Falls; and

WHEREAS, Montana’s mining operations have employed tens of thousands at hundreds of sites and continues to contribute billions of dollars annually to Montana’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the sacrifices of miners who lost their lives in the early days of Montana mining have helped establish exceptional safety and labor standards; and

WHEREAS, Montana holds significant deposits of critical minerals vital to our nation’s defense, economic and technological progress, and energy security; and

WHEREAS, Montana is proud of its mining heritage, present, and future, and recognizes the importance of promoting and educating the public on responsible mining;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim February 9, 2026

MONTANA MINING DAY

to recognize the important role of mining in our state’s past, present, and future.

GREG GIANFORTE

Governor