

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, physician assistants (PAs) are licensed medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop treatment plans, prescribe medications, assist in surgery, provide preventative care, and serve patients across a wide range of specialties; and

WHEREAS, National PA Week is observed annually beginning on October 6 in recognition of the first PA class graduating from Duke University in 1967 and the establishment of National PA Day in 1987; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Board of Medical Examiners licenses 1,815 physician assistants who play an important role in Montana's healthcare workforce; and

WHEREAS, nearly 45 percent of Montanans live in rural areas, making access to quality healthcare and a strong rural healthcare workforce especially important; and

WHEREAS, PAs help expand access to high-quality, patient-centered care, particularly in rural and frontier communities across Montana; and

WHEREAS, Montana has worked to strengthen the PA workforce, including authorizing eligible, experienced PAs to practice independently and supporting the development of Montana's first public PA program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2026

PA WEEK

in Montana to recognize important contributions of PAs to patients and communities across our state.

A blue ink signature of Greg Gianforte, written in a cursive style.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor