

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, Montana is home to the Blackfeet Nation, Chippewa Cree Tribe, Crow Nation, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, Fort Belknap Assiniboine & Gros Ventre Tribes, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes, Little Shell Chippewa Tribe, and Northern Cheyenne Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans make up approximately 7 percent of Montana's population, but account for 26 percent of missing persons, and Native American women are murdered at more than ten times the rate of the national average, especially for those ten to thirty-four years of age; and

WHEREAS, the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) has tragically impacted too many families in Montana, with Montana consistently ranking in the top five states for MMIP; and

WHEREAS, MMIP cases often go unreported or can be misclassified due to lack of information and late reporting; and

WHEREAS, Montana must bring all resources to bear to track data, raise awareness, and strengthen interagency collaboration to protect Montana's indigenous persons;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2023

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS AWARENESS DAY

in Montana to encourage collective action to bring an end to the MMIP crisis.



GREG GIANFORTE

Governor