

# STATE OF MONTANA



## *Governor's Proclamation*



*WHEREAS, human trafficking is a widespread, heartbreaking crime whereby traffickers, which are often organized criminal enterprises, profit at the expense of adults or children by compelling them to perform labor or engage in commercial sex; and*

*WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) initiated 143 human trafficking cases in 2023, more than double the cases in 2021; and*

*WHEREAS, human trafficking contributes to the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons; and*

*WHEREAS, nonprofit organizations in Montana are committed to providing education about human trafficking, training to identify and report human trafficking, and resources to support survivors; and*

*WHEREAS, private businesses and industry associations are committing resources and educating their employees to prevent human trafficking in Montana; and*

*WHEREAS, DOJ, as well as county sheriff's offices, city police departments, and law enforcement agencies across Montana are increasing efforts to stop human trafficking;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim January 2024 and January 11, 2024*

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH and HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY**

in Montana to encourage Montanans to be a part of the solution by learning the signs of human trafficking and reporting suspicious activity.

**GREG GIANFORTE**  
Governor