STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, one in five Americans live with a mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, suicide is a leading cause of death in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's whole health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, everyone experiences times of difficulty and stress in their lives and should be comfortable in seeking help and support; and

WHEREAS, prevention, early identification, and early intervention are effective ways to reduce the burden and stigma of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, many people diagnosed with a substance use disorder also suffer from a co-occurring mental or behavioral condition; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization, and citizen shares a responsibility for addressing mental health concerns and promoting mental wellness; and

WHEREAS, the various challenges brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic, including isolation, loss of income, fear, and bereavement, have significantly contributed to the decline in mental health; and

WHEREAS, Arizona has a strong behavioral health crisis system available to all residents, regardless of insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment will help improve overall health, decrease health care costs for all Arizonans, and allow individuals to live fulfilling lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

and encourage citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in Arizona to raise mental health awareness and continue helping Arizonans live healthier and longer lives.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

COVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twentieth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE