

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 initiated 64 human trafficking investigations in fiscal year 2022, an increase of 300 percent from 16 in the previous fiscal year; 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, the Montana Department of Justice, as well as county sheriffs' 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 2023 and January 11, 2023

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

in Montana to encourage Montanans to help end human trafficking.

GREG GIANFORTE

Governor