STATE OF OREGON

PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS: The enduring impact of colonization and historically oppressive policies are closely linked to increased violence against American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, including Indigenous women, girls, two-spirit relatives, and persons throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central America, and all U.S. territories; and

WHEREAS: In Oregon—spanning urban, rural, and reservation areas—American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, Indigenous women, girls, men, boys, LGBTQI+, Two-Spirit, transgender, and gender non-conforming people, face heightened risks of murder, sexual assault, human trafficking, exploitation, and abduction, suffering from disproportionate visibility and delayed justice; and

WHEREAS: Ongoing systemic racism and the legacy of colonization have exacerbated poverty, homelessness, incarceration, and violence, disproportionately affecting American Indian and Alaska Native communities compared to their non-Indigenous counterparts; and

WHEREAS: Oregon is committed to addressing the root causes and systemic obstacles contributing to this persistent crisis, aiming to mitigate violence against Indigenous Peoples; and

WHEREAS: Oregon recognizes Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day and joins tribal, local, regional, and national entities, organizations, advocates, families, and survivors commemorating the lives of those lost or missing; and

WHEREAS: To increase awareness and demonstrate solidarity on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day, Oregonians are encouraged to wear red.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **May 5th, 2024** to be

MURDERED OR MISSING INDIGENOUS PERSONS AWARENESS DAY

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, May 2, 2024.

Tina Kotek

Tina Kotek, Governor

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

LaVonne Griffin-Valade, Secretary of State