STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, after a lifetime of contributions to their families, their communities and our state, every Missourian deserves to live out his or her days in health and security, yet, every year, millions of older Americans are denied the opportunity due to abuse, neglect or exploitation; and

WHEREAS, on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, we call attention to this global public health crisis, and we recommit to ending this abuse, supporting those who are victims and holding perpetrators accountable; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse can take many forms – including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, self-neglect, bullying, abandonment, and financial exploitation – and it is important for all Missourians to learn how to recognize and report mistreatment; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse victims are our friends, neighbors, parents, grandparents, and loved ones and the issue takes an unacceptable toll on individuals and families across our state; and

WHEREAS, experts believe that for every one case of elder abuse or neglect reported to authorities, as many as 23 cases go unreported; and

WHEREAS, every day, the Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri's ten Area Agencies on Aging, protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, private and nonprofit organizations, and leaders throughout our communities help protect older Missourians from abuse and provide care to those who have already been affected; and

WHEREAS, Missouri's Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline responds to reports of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation 365 days per year, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Reports can also be submitted online 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2025, to be

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 7th day of May 2025.

Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE