## STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Alcohol Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase outreach and education regarding the dangers of alcoholism and issues related to alcohol; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families may have experienced increased stress during the COVID-19 pandemic, along with fear and anxiety which may encourage more alcohol intake; and

WHEREAS, 14.3 percent of adults in Arizona report binge drinking in 2020 and roughly 95,000 deaths resulted from alcohol misuse in the United States between 2011 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, alcohol is the most commonly used substance among youth in the United States impacting individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Arizona Youth Survey shows that the most frequently reported substance used across 8th, 10th, and 12th grade youth is alcohol; and

WHEREAS, alcohol use during teenage years can interfere with normal adolescent brain development and increase the risk of developing Alcohol Use Disorder; and

WHEREAS, youth who drink alcohol are more likely to experience changes in brain development that may have lifelong effects including, physical and sexual violence, school and social problems, increased risk of suicide and homicide, and alcohol related vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, results from the 2020 Arizona Youth Survey show that 10.2 percent of high school participants reported riding in a car in which the driver had been drinking; and

WHEREAS, statewide prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts surrounding alcohol and substance abuse can help individuals, families, and communities prevent and address alcoholism and alcohol-related problems.

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

## ARIZONA ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

and call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools, and colleges in the State of Arizona to support early education about alcoholism and addiction, and increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism. Through these efforts we can provide hope, help, and healing for all individuals and families struggling with alcohol misuse and abuse.

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

GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this sixteenth day of March 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

