The State of **Mashington**

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Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington state recognizes that one of its greatest strengths is the diversity of its people; and

WHEREAS, Washington state has a long-standing tradition of upholding the dignity of the individual, supporting legal equality and fair treatment for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, and ensuring that acts of discrimination and hatred will not be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, aromantic, queer, two-spirit, non-binary, and intersex communities (LGBTQ) contribute to our state's success and strengths in a great number of immeasurable ways; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ community continues to be a target of violence, harassment, and discrimination by many and yet continues to thrive through the support of LGBTQ-affirming spaces, agencies, and individual allies; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the rise of anti-LGBTQ legislation continues across the nation, criminalizing drag performances, restricting LGBTQ content in literature, banning transgender athletes from competition, and removing access to age-appropriate gender affirming care for minors, putting LGBTQ people of all ages in danger throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington has positioned itself as a safe place for LGBTQ people with expanded protections for all; and

WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, aromantic, queer, two-spirit, non-binary, and intersex Washingtonians invite all people to join them during the month of June in celebrating the resiliency and contributions of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 2024 as

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Asexual, Aromantic, Queer, Two-Spirit, Non-Binary, and Intersex Pride Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 22nd day of April, 2024

Governor Jay Inslee