WHEREAS, 1,094 Missourians were lost to opioid overdoses in 2019; and

WHEREAS, communities across the State of Missouri are encouraged to develop and support local coalitions as the epidemic looks different across our diverse state; and

WHEREAS, local engagement and leadership is imperative as it plays a major role in assisting with the removal of the stigma of addiction and the normalization of recovery; and

WHEREAS, Missouri's treatment providers are committed to help individuals with substance use disorders recover from this complex and treatable disease.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2020 to be

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE 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 24th day of August, 2020.