

State of Missouri

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Missouri has a longstanding commitment to protecting the rights of all victims of crime and advancing those rights and protections, so that no victim fears coming forward to report a crime or that they will not be treated with compassion and respect by the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, across the state, Missourians are committed to reducing crime and making Missouri safer for all citizens by working with law enforcement agencies and neighborhood and community organizations that promote neighborhood watches and other efforts that encourage citizens to prevent crime in their communities; and

WHEREAS, to protect crime victims and witnesses, who may face threats to their safety for cooperating with the criminal justice system in order to bring criminals to justice, the State of Missouri in 2020 enacted into law House Bill 66, creating the Protection Program for Victims/Witnesses of Violent Crime and the Witness Protection Security Fund, which is administered by the Missouri Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety may make funds available to Missouri law enforcement agencies from the Witness Protection Security Fund to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of victims/witnesses of violent crime and their families if their testimony might subject them to danger or bodily injury, and these services may continue so long as such danger exists; and

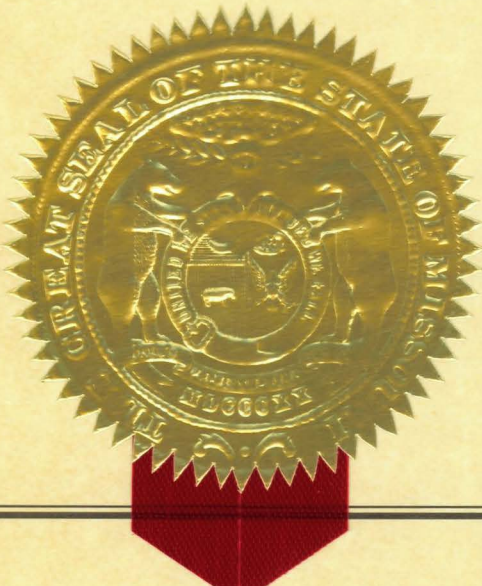
WHEREAS, Missouri's brave and determined crime victims, survivors and victim service organizations continue to broaden their efforts to expand the protections and rights of all crime victims; and

WHEREAS, Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 18-24, 2021, provides Missourians with the opportunity to recommit to ensuring justice for all crime victims, along with their appreciation for the strength and resilience of victims and their families.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 18-24, 2021, to be

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK 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 8th day of April, 2021.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE