WHEREAS, on July 14, 2021, Governor Michael L. Parson signed into law Senate Bill 72, establishing Law Enforcement Appreciation Day as the first Friday in May; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is fortunate to have more than 600 law enforcement agencies and over 14,300 licensed full-time peace officers, working in agencies ranging from small village police departments and rural sheriffs' offices to major metropolitan police departments and State law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, Missouri communities recognize the dedication and commitment of these brave officers in responding to emergencies, combating crime, and taking preventive steps to reduce criminal activity, no matter the risk to themselves; and

WHEREAS, Missouri law enforcement officers bear tremendous responsibilities and they and their families make extraordinary sacrifices in order to serve their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Missourians are forever grateful for the courageous law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice because of their commitment to protecting their fellow citizens, and are mindful that in 2022 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day falls on May 6, the same day as Missouri's Candlelight Vigil for all our state's fallen law enforcement officers, and that Missouri's annual Law Enforcement Memorial Service honoring Missouri officers killed in the line of duty in 2021 will be held on May 7, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim May 6, 2022, to be

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

in Missouri, and call upon all citizens to give special tribute to all those who serve and sacrifice to enhance the safety of their fellow citizens of the State of 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 2nd day of May, 2022.