

## State of Missouri Proclamation By the Governor

WHEREAS, Missouri's school and Early Childhood Education (ECE) nutrition professionals, farmers, and ranchers are recognized and celebrated for their leadership in ensuring that the students of Missouri are fed; and

WHEREAS, Missouri's schools and ECEs significantly impact the nutrition students receive and their development of healthy eating habits; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is home to many vibrant family farms that supply local schools and markets; and

WHEREAS, Missouri does best when state agencies and community partners collaborate to achieve common goals; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School and ECE enrich the connection that communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and ECEs; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School and ECE support students' access to healthy, local foods and educational opportunities, including gardens, cooking lessons, and farm field trips; and

WHEREAS, Farm to School and ECE empower children and their families to make informed food choices and strengthens the local economy, which contributes to vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri supports our school, ECE nutrition professionals, farmers, and ranchers, and celebrates National Farm to School and ECE Month in October.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 2025 to be

## FARM TO SCHOOL AND EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION MONTH

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2025.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

enny Hospins