



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, cooperatives are locally developed, independent and collaborative organizations, formed by everyday people who join together to solve a problem or meet a need with innovative and practical approaches; and

WHEREAS, cooperatives exemplify a great self-help tradition, and these cooperative businesses are owned and controlled by members, governed democratically by one member one vote, and exist solely to serve and benefit the members through the group effort; and

WHEREAS, cooperative are adaptable and time tested, and they participate in every industry including production agriculture, food marketing and retail, financial services, rural electric, and telecommunication services; and

WHEREAS, nearly 450 cooperatives serve more than two million members and create more than 60,000 jobs in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, cooperatives invest in community development and dedicate substantial resources to serve communities beyond their core business function, including charitable giving to meet community needs that might otherwise go unmet; and

WHEREAS, Missouri cooperatives connect their members to each other, the communities and the world, and we honor the values that guide these member-owned organizations to reap the benefits from collaboration – the sharing of ideas, resources, and capital which helps individuals accomplish more together than is possible alone; and


WHEREAS, it is important for all citizens to acknowledge the value of cooperatives, their important contributions to our state's economy and their role in improving the quality of life in our communities.


NOW THEREFORE, I, Eric R. Greitens, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 2017 to be

COOPERATIVE 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 21st day of September, 2017.




Eric R. Greitens
Governor

Attest:

Secretary of State