## The State of Mashington



## **Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Washington state has a growing Muslim community and Washington is home to over 50 mosques; and

*WHEREAS*, the Muslim American community in Washington provides support and assistance to people throughout the community through charitable contributions, community groups, and social activism, including running for political office; and

**WHEREAS**, the Muslim American community in Washington advances our society in the fields of medicine, technology, hospitality, government, and transportation; and

*WHEREAS*, Muslim Americans in Washington state include immigrant and refugee communities from Afghanistan, Somalia, Senegal, Syria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, Vietnam, Egypt, Pakistan, Palestine, India, Gambia, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, Muslim Americans are affected by police brutality, racial inequity, lack of safety for essential workers during COVID-19, housing unaffordability, financial exclusion, lack of access to adequate health care, and Islamophobic policies such as the "Muslim and African Bans;" and

WHEREAS, despite the hardships, the immigrant and refugee community in Washington state has remained resilient and interconnected, working to ensure that resources and support are delivered to the people who need it most and, since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, have played frontline roles in keeping Washingtonians healthy; and

*WHEREAS*, Washington state is proud to recognize and commemorate "Muslim-American Heritage Month," an observance that celebrates the contributions of Muslim Americans in Washington;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim July 2022 as

## Muslim American Heritage Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2022

Governor Jay Inslee

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