

STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, New Mexico is a state surrounded by intrinsic natural beauty, and as responsible citizens it is our responsibility to act as judicious stewards of our land; and

WHEREAS, forests are succumbing to a hotter, drier climate, and older trees, burned by wildfires or infested by bark beetles, are not growing back; and

WHEREAS, healthy forests in watersheds and urban areas are vital to the biodiversity of New *Mexico and the wellbeing of its residents; and*

WHEREAS, trees in forests and urban areas provide solace to the mind and necessities to the human body including oxygen, fuel, shelter and medicine; and

WHEREAS, trees lend protection to the environment by reducing air and noise pollution, mitigating climate change, preventing the erosion of soil, and providing shelter for birds and other wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the second Friday of March was established as the official date for arbor day by the *Territorial Legislature in 1891*.

NOW THEREFORE, *I*, *Michelle Lujan Grisham*, *Governor of the State of New Mexico*, *do hereby proclaim March 2023 as:*

"Arbor Month"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

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Maggle Toulouse Oliver Secretary of State Done at the Executive Office this 24th day of January 2023.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Mexico.

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Michelle Lujan **G**risham Governor