

## City of Helena Proclamation

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities was founded in 1924 in Lawrence, Kansas, as the American Municipal Association by state municipal leagues seeking more coordination and national representation as cities, towns, and villages expanded rapidly; and

WHEREAS, the nonpartisan National League of Cities is the oldest and largest organization representing municipal governments throughout the United States, representing the interests of more than 19,000 cities, towns, and villages across the country; and

WHEREAS, today, the National League of Cities works in partnership with 49 state municipal leagues across the country to strengthen local leadership, drive innovation, and influence the federal policies that impact local programs and operations; and

WHEREAS, as the voice of cities, towns, and villages in Washington, DC, the National League of Cities has successfully championed federal legislative solutions that support municipalities and has worked closely with Congress and the Executive Branch to educate policymakers on the realities of local implementation; and

WHEREAS, Helena is a proud member of the National League of Cities, and has benefited from the organization's research, technical expertise, federal advocacy and opportunities to learn from other local governments; and

WHEREAS, local governments are the bedrock of American democracy, providing 336 million residents with the most accountable, responsive, inclusive, ethical, and transparent government in the world; an

WHEREAS, from the nation's smallest villages to its largest cities, America's local governments have been essential in transforming the United States of America into the greatest, most influential nation in world history; and

WHEREAS, the City of Helena was first incorporated in 1864 and is proudly served today by Commissioners Emily Dean, Sean Logan, Melinda Reed, Andy Shirtliff, and Mayor Wilmot Collins, and a municipal workforce of 564 dedicated public servants.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Wilmot Collins, Mayor of Helena, Montana, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

## "National Cities, Towns, and Villages Month"

throughout this city and encourage all the people of Helena to in celebration of America's local governments and the National League of Cities' historic centennial anniversary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Helena, Montana, to be affixed this 6th day of May, 2024.

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Wilmot Collins, Mayor

ATTEST

Dannai Clayborn, Clerk of the Commission