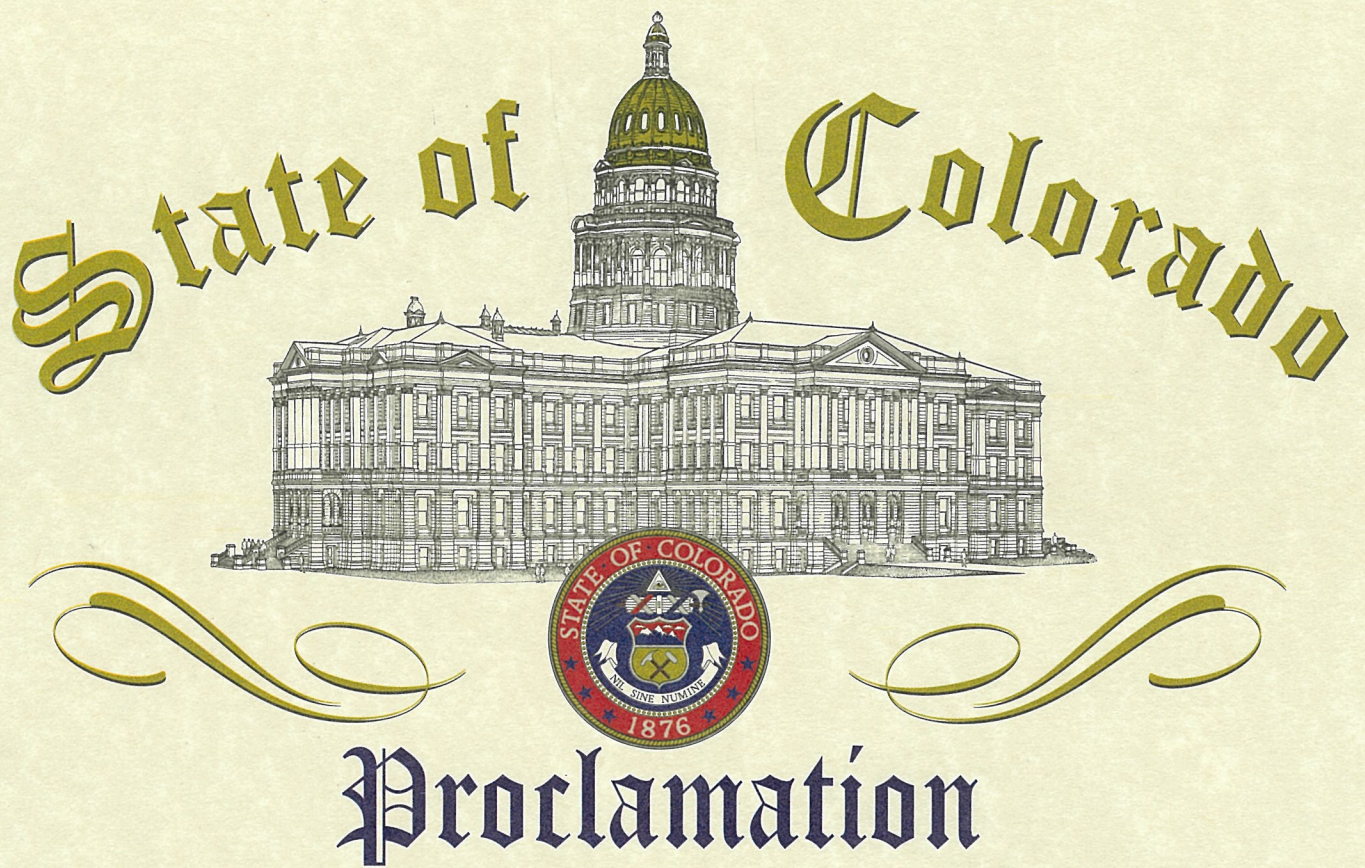




WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other preeminent U.S. healthcare organizations acknowledge that disparities in health and healthcare are causally connected to racism; and

WHEREAS, all people deserve the opportunity to attain quality, affordable health care; and

WHEREAS, structural and systemic racism often results in African American women receiving poorer quality healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Black women's physical and mental health are at risk when they are denied appropriate healthcare, when healthcare providers ignore or fail to give due credence to their complaints of pain, and they are not treated with dignity and respect by medical professionals; and

WHEREAS, the long-term psychological and physical toll of racial discrimination and its cumulative intersectionality with sexism predisposes Black women to higher risk of developing medical conditions that threaten their and their babies' lives; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Senate Bill 21-181, Equity Strategic Plan Address Health Disparities Act, was signed into law on July 6, 2021 and expanded the Health Disparities and Community Grant Program as well as directed state agencies to develop and implement an equity strategic plan;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim February 25, 2023 as

TOWARDS HEALTH EQUITY: SAVING LIVES OF BLACK WOMEN & INFANTS DAY

in the State of Colorado.

*GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado, this twenty-fifth day of
February, 2023*



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis
Governor*