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WHEREAS, the State of Colorado is committed to advancing equity, inclusiveness, and opportunity for all residents, ensuring that every individual has the resources to thrive and contribute to our communities; and

WHEREAS, Black women have historically faced systemic barriers to leadership roles in critical professional fields, such as law, medicine, philanthropy, academia, and military service, and elected office despite their vital contributions to these sectors; and

WHEREAS, in the legal profession, Black women represent less than 2% of judges nationwide and face significant challenges in accessing leadership roles within the judiciary and legal academia; and

WHEREAS, Black women in medicine are underrepresented in leadership positions despite research showing that diversity in healthcare improves patient outcomes and fosters innovation; and

WHEREAS, Black women in philanthropy lead transformative efforts to address systemic inequities but often face limited funding support compared to their counterparts; and

WHEREAS, Black women in academia encounter barriers to tenure-track positions and leadership roles due to intersecting biases, limiting their ability to influence educational policy and practices; and

WHEREAS, Black women serve disproportionately in the U.S. military but remain underrepresented in senior leadership positions despite their dedication and service to our nation; and

WHEREAS, systemic inequities in these professions perpetuate disparities that affect vital aspects of Black women's lives, including economic mobility, access to healthcare, representation in decision-making roles, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, initiatives like Visioning: Pathways to Opening Door, an event by Sister-to-Sister, Inc., that empower Black women through mentorship, professional development, and networking opportunities, while honoring their and other female path-setters' achievements; and

WHEREAS, fostering equity and inclusiveness within these professions strengthens Colorado's workforce by unlocking the full potential of all residents, while promoting innovation, collaboration, and community well-being;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of time between July 12 and July 19, 2025, as

VISIONING: PATHWAYS TO OPENING DOORS WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twelfth day of July, 2025



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

Jared Polis
Governor