State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, cooperatives are businesses owned and democratically governed by their members' interests; and more than 40,000 cooperatives nationwide operate in virtually every industry including: agriculture, rural electric, financial services, childcare, telecommunications, food retail and distribution, housing, healthcare, insurance and many others; and

WHEREAS, grain and farm supply cooperatives in Iowa generate significant income, employment, and revenue and function as engines of economic growth for local communities as they operate in over 700 communities, employ more than 8,000 people, serve more than 122,000 member-owners, and pay over $32 million in property taxes locally; and

WHEREAS, rural electric cooperatives power the lives of more than 650,000 Iowans every day, employ 1,200 people, have helped bring $10 billion in investment to rural economic development over the past 30 years, and pay more than $14 million in property taxes each year; and

WHEREAS, credit unions in Iowa, as financial cooperatives, improve the financial lives of consumers, function as engines of economic growth as they operate in all 99 counties, employ nearly 5,050 people, serve 1.5+ million member-owners, and contribute $2.7 billion in economic output; and

WHEREAS, concern for the community is a core guiding cooperative principle; and cooperatives dedicate substantial human and financial resources to serve their communities beyond their core business functions, and the community commitment of cooperatives enhances economic opportunity and improves quality of life in Iowa's towns and cities; and

WHEREAS, during the month of October, cooperatives of all types and from all industries reaffirm their commitment and pledge continued, active involvement in the communities in which their members live and work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim October, 2026 as

Cooperative Month

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS SIXTH OF OCTOBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX.

Kim Reynolds

KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

Paul Pate

PAUL PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE