

WHEREAS, Colorado is home to a diverse population of multiple races and ethnicities encompassing Native American, Black, Hispanic, White, Asian, Pacific Islander and other populations. Diverse communities all over the world continue to experience systemic racism, injustices, and discrimination. The constitution of the USA and the State of Colorado is committed to upholding the human rights, dignity, and equality of all Coloradans; and

WHEREAS, born in India on April 14, 1891, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was "the Chief Architect of Indian Constitution"; he was a profound social reformer, humanist, nation builder, an eminent constitutional lawyer, journalist, educationalist, economist, lawmaker, environmentalist, statesman, and emancipator of millions of downtrodden, to endorse equality, justice, dignity, and fraternity in independent India; and

WHEREAS, he was also the first Minister of Law and Justice of Independent India. Dr. Ambedkar contributed multidimensionally to the development of Modern India and was honored with the highest civilian award in India 'Bharat Ratna'; and

WHEREAS, born in an untouchable caste, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was the first highly educated, politically influential member who championed the rights of marginalized sections all his life. He received a master's degree, a Ph.D. in economics in 1927 from Columbia University, and a DSc at the London School of Economics in 1923. He was also awarded honoris causa LLD in 1952 as "a great social reformer and a valiant upholder of human rights" by Columbia University; and

WHEREAS, he is also recognized for the revival of Buddhism in modern India to embrace the principles of compassion and non-violence for a society that leads to equality, liberty, justice, and fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Equity Day is an opportunity to remember and honor his legacy of dedication to equity, social justice, human rights, and dignity, which continues to inspire people in Colorado and across the world;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim April 14, 2022 as

## DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR EQUITY DAY

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this fourteenth day of April, 2022

Jared Polis Governor