

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

Executive Order

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS,** suicide is a national public health challenge that causes immeasurable pain among individuals, families and communities across the country; and
- WHEREAS,** the number of veteran and military suicides has exceeded 6,000 each year from 2008-2017; and
- WHEREAS,** suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, 2nd for people ages 10-35, and on average, 129 Americans die by suicide each day accounting for 47,173 suicide deaths in 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 5, 2019, the President signed Executive Order 13861 calling for the development of a comprehensive plan to empower veterans and end suicide through coordinated suicide prevention efforts, prioritized research activities and strengthened collaboration across the public and private sectors. This plan is known as the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide or PREVENTS (the "Roadmap"); and
- WHEREAS,** for every individual who feels alone, ashamed or believes that they would be a burden if their thoughts or feelings were shared, there are scores of others in every community who want to help but are not sure how; and
- WHEREAS,** Indiana businesses are in the unique position to leverage the learnings from our employees, including veterans, to encourage a national discussion on mental health and wellbeing in the workplace and collaborate on meaningful solutions; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has a Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families that brings together interagency teams to address veteran suicide at the state level; and
- WHEREAS,** the PREVENTS national public health campaign, REACH, will seek to increase awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to reduce suicide for all Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim
September 10, 2020 as

PREVENTS 2020

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

*In Testimony Whereof, I hereto
set my hand and cause to be affixed the
Great Seal of State. Done at the
City of Indianapolis, this 1st
day of September the year of our
Lord 2020 and of the Independence
of the United States 245.*



BY THE GOVERNOR:

Eric J. Holcomb