

## State of Missouri Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than nine million Americans suffer with gout, the most common form of inflammatory arthritis, caused by uric acid build-up in the joints; and

WHEREAS, gout causes excruciating attacks and impacts a patient's workplace, community, and daily quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans are two to three times more likely to develop gout than White Americans, and are less likely to be prescribed urate-lowering medications or receive ongoing, routine provider care; Asian Americans and Asian Pacific Islanders are also at an increased risk of gout; and

WHEREAS, stigma, lack of awareness, and misinformation may hinder treatment for gout, a chronic disease characterized by sudden and excruciating attacks; and

WHEREAS, heightening public awareness can reduce the unfair stigma people with gout experience, and empower patients to seek quality care and timely treatment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2023, to be

## **GOUT AWARENESS DAY**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE