

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

The State of Nebraska recognizes that it has a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

WHEREAS,

Critical infrastructure is increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS,

Cybersecurity education and awareness are crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user, and anyone who connects to the internet; and

WHEREAS,

Monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices safely are ways you can protect yourself from phishing, viruses, malware, financial loss, and loss of sensitive data; and

WHEREAS,

I, Governor Pete Ricketts, encourage every individual and public and private organization in the state of Nebraska to ensure the understanding, implementation, and success of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month to help the citizens of the state of Nebraska stay safe online and connect with confidence; and

WHEREAS,

The "STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™" campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations, and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and

WHEREAS,

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and

WHEREAS,

Maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of Nebraska's information, infrastructure, and economy; and

WHEREAS,

The Nebraska Information Technology Commission or NITC was established in 1998 to enhance and protect the State of Nebraska's cybersecurity ecosystem; and

WHEREAS,

The Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (www.cisa.gov), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (<https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac>), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (www.nascio.org), and the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) all recognize October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month; and all citizens are encouraged to visit these websites, along with NITC and the "STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™" campaign websites (www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect or www.stopthinkconnect.org) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE,

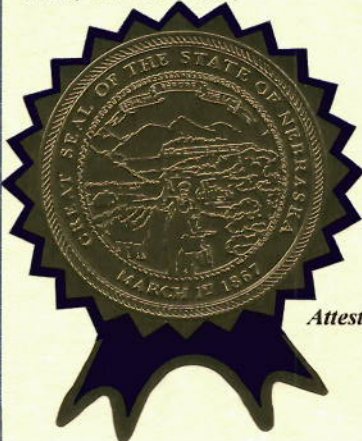
I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of October 2021 as

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this First day of September, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Attest:



Secretary of State

Governor