

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, there is an alarming escalation of international, national and local incidents and rhetoric directed against immigrants, refugees and people of faith, as well as rising nationalism and xenophobia in Europe and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, we are Americans who value freedom of religion and want to create a positive environment where we can learn from each other's faiths; and

WHEREAS, Missoula has a long history of embracing diversity and dignity for all people by statute and practice; and

WHEREAS, we believe that open dialog that doesn't demonize any side is critical to address the fears and concerns that exist; and

WHEREAS, we want our community to be a place where all people feel welcome and appreciated.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby recognize the week of April 8 as;

CELEBRATE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

in Missoula, Montana, a week of learning and dialog, understanding and celebration of the heritage of our Muslim citizens, friends, and visitors. We invite people of our city, county and region to participate in a series of events aimed at building positive relationships among us.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 8th day of April, in the year two thousand nineteen.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Engen".

John Engen
Mayor