PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Our nation celebrates the history of the Americas and the Indigenous People's intrinsic connection to this land, their origin stories, and their contribution to the development of our country; and

WHEREAS, President G.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month", and similar national proclamations have been issued every year since 1994; and

WHEREAS, Iowa was once home to more than 17 different indigenous tribes including the Iowa, Sac and Fox (Meskwaki), Sioux, Citizen Potawatomi, Ponca, Oto, and Missouri; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to create in people a consciousness, respect, and endearment for the legacy of Indigenous People's cultural history including traditional knowledge, experience, labor, technology, science, philosophy, industry, and art, as well as their cultural belief system that stipulates Indigenous People as protectors and stewards of our natural environment for the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, Des Moines, which currently is home to nearly 10,000 residents that identify as "American Indian or Alaska Native", joins other states and cities across the nation this month to celebrate and honor the unique heritage of this continent's First Peoples.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE RESIDENTS OF DES MOINES, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2021, AS:

"NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

AND I ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSE HERITAGE AND CULTURE AND CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO CREATE A WORLD THAT IS MORE JUST, COMPASSIONATE, AND EQUITABLE FOR ALL.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HERETO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA TO BE AFFIXED THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE.

T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR
CITY OF DES MOINES