ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

PROCLAMATI

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**CERTIFICATE OF** 

December 10, 2020 as **HUMAN RIGHTS DAY** 

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on December 10, 1948, to proclaim the inalienable rights of every human being regardless of race, origin, color, religion, sex, political opinion, or any other status; and,

WHEREAS, since then, Human Rights Day has been observed annually to raise awareness of the inequalities, exclusion, and discrimination that still exists across the globe, to reflect on the ideals highlighted by UDHR, and to recommit ourselves to fulfill each of our duties as citizens to take action to protect human rights in our daily lives; and,

WHEREAS, over the years, the United States has made great strides in advancing human rights and the institutions that protect them, including expanding the protection of human rights, ending gender-based violence, and defending the freedoms of religion and expression; and,

WHEREAS, in Michigan, progress has been made to ensure everyone has access to clean water, a high-quality education, skills training, health care, and other essential resources, but we must continue to work together to build a society where nobody is left behind, forgotten, or mistreated; and,

WHEREAS, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's theme, "Recover Better – Stand Up for Human Rights," focuses on the need to ensure human rights are central to recovery efforts and encourages individuals to take transformative action to foster resilient and just communities; and,

WHEREAS, on this day, it is important to reaffirm our commitment to end the discrimination often experienced by minority groups, including LGBTQ individuals, people with disabilities, immigrants, women of all ages, and members of certain ethnicities or religions; to stand up against violence, oppression, and hatred; and to promote equality, dignity, and humanity in our communities, our state, and across the globe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

