



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, K-12 schools must be safe and liberatory learning environments that include and affirm LGBTQI+ young people, especially those who are transgender, nonbinary, intersex, Black, Indigenous, people of color, people with disabilities, and from all communities that experience marginalization; and*

*WHEREAS, LGBTQI+ young people frequently experience bias-based bullying and harassment, discrimination, and punitive discipline; and*

*WHEREAS, LGBTQI+ young people are more likely than their non-LGBTQI+ peers to experience mental health concerns, including stress, anxiety, and depression and suicidal thoughts; and*

*WHEREAS, young people who develop in positive school climates, free of bullying, harassment, and discrimination, report greater physical and psychological safety, greater mental well-being, and improved educational and life outcomes; and*

*WHEREAS, every young person must have equal educational opportunity to attend safe school environments that protect their educational rights; and*

*WHEREAS, young people, teachers, school staff, families, and communities must be free of the violence of racism, transphobia, homophobia, sexism, ableism, and all forms of systemic oppression; and*

*WHEREAS, for over two decades Congress has supported a resolution for a National Day of Silence, and for a decade, Congress has supported a resolution for No Name-Calling Week; and*

*WHEREAS, GLSEN advocates have designated 2023-2024 as a time for communities to Rise Up in support of LGBTQI+ young people in schools and prohibit bias-based victimization, exclusion, and erasure; and*

*WHEREAS, we must all demand the best possible future for all young people in schools, including those who identify as LGBTQI+, without exception;*

*THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2023 as*

*RISE UP FOR LGBTQ+ YOUTH MONTH*

*in the State of Colorado.*

*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of June, 2023*



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis  
Governor