

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

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

June 30, 2023
as

Rise Up for LGBTQI+ Youth in Schools Day

Whereas, young people, teachers, school staff, and families must feel safe at places of learning; and,

Whereas, K-12 schools must be learning environments that include and affirm LGBTQI+ young people; and,

Whereas, LGBTQI+ young people frequently experience bias-based bullying and harassment, discrimination, and punitive discipline that increases the likelihood they will enter the school-to-prison pipeline; and,

Whereas, LGBTQI+ young people are more likely than their non-LGBTQI+ peers to experience mental health concerns, including stress, anxiety, and depression, with nearly half of LGBTQI+ young people seriously considering suicide in the last year; and,

Whereas, every young person must have equal educational opportunity and freedom from the fear that their basic civil and educational rights will be taken away from them; and 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, we must all demand the best possible future for all young people in schools, including those who identify as LGBTQI+, without exception; and,

Whereas, we must support equal educational opportunity, basic civil rights protections, and freedom from erasure for all students, including LGBTQI+ young people in K-12 schools; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim June 30, 2023 as Rise Up for LGBTQI+ Youth in Schools Day in Michigan.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gretchen Whitmer'.

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

