



STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

Nebraska's farmer-owned agricultural cooperatives have served rural Nebraska with products, services, employment opportunities, education, community betterment, and other economic benefits for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS,

Nebraska's farmer-owned agricultural cooperatives are the only agricultural input and supply and/or grain companies owned and controlled by their farmer and rancher patrons and that distribute their net income back to their local patron owners based upon the amount of business done, not as a return on investment; and

WHEREAS,

Nebraska's farmer-owned agricultural cooperatives maintain facilities and employment locations in 398 rural communities in Nebraska; directly employ almost 5,300 Nebraskans; provide community support of over \$1.17 million annually in the form of scholarships to rural students and support of school organizations, youth activities, and rural fire departments; reinvested \$162 million last year in facilities to serve Nebraska's farmer and ranchers; and paid their farmer and rancher patron owners nearly \$57.5 million annually in patronage and equity redemption payments contributing to a total economic impact on the State of Nebraska of approximately \$2 billion annually.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, **Pete Ricketts**, Governor of the State of Nebraska, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM** the month of October, 2019 as

COOPERATIVE MONTH

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen.



Attest:

Secretary of State

Governor