

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Prevention Week is an annual commemoration of the efforts taken by communities and organizations to promote positive mental health and prevent substance misuse; and,

*Whereas*, this year's theme, "A Celebration of Possibility," is about bringing communities together to observe the possibilities that exist thanks to the ongoing prevention work happening in South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, it is a time to raise awareness of substance use and mental health issues, and to highlight the effectiveness of evidence-based prevention programs; and,

*Whereas*, South Dakota's prevention network, made up of 19 prevention coalitions and three prevention resource centers, provides evidence-based services to communities and schools; and,

*Whereas*, prevention helps people develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to make choices which benefit their personal well-being and change harmful behaviors; and,

*Whereas*, preventing untreated mental illness and/or substance use disorders and related problems is critical to behavioral and physical health; and,

*Whereas*, whether big or small, through their example or their focused efforts, all persons have a role to play in leading healthy communities in the prevention of substance misuse and the promotion of mental health wellness:

*Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7, 2023, as

**PREVENTION WEEK**

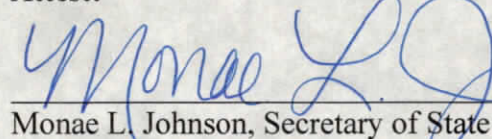
in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

  
Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

  
Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State