GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A DUCEY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, falls have continued to be the leading cause of unintentional injury-related hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and deaths among those Arizonans 65 years old and older with over 23,000 falls reported to the Arizona State Trauma Registry in 2018; and

WHEREAS, falls lead to nearly half of the traumatic brain injury related hospitalizations and those 85 years old and older have the highest mortality per 100,000 people; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of emergency room visits and hospitalization for unintentional falls exceeds \$1.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, falling is NOT an inevitable result of aging; and

WHEREAS, older Arizonans at risk of falling can seek fall prevention programs that can teach them specific everyday strategies to improve mobility and stability and reduce fall risks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as

FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

in Arizona and urge all older adults, family members and caregivers, health care providers, fire and medical departments, first responders, and community-based organizations to join the Arizona Falls Prevention Coalition and its regional Chapters and routinely assess older adults, including our veterans and those with disabilities for fall risks and strategies to improve mobility and stability to reduce falls risks

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Toughen A. Therey

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Sixth day of August in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

SECRETARY OF STATE