

PROCLAMATION

TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK May 1-7, 2022

WHEREAS, travel has been the foundation of a healthy workforce, serving as one of the largest private-sector employers in the United States, supporting 17 million jobs prior to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, a robust travel industry provides significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than \$2.6 trillion in economic output prior to the pandemic, with \$1.2 trillion spent directly by travelers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, spending by travelers in Pennsylvania prior to the pandemic directly injected more than \$46 billion into the state's economy that, in turn, generated \$4.8 billion in state and local taxes used to support a wide variety of critical public services, and directly supported 333,100 Pennsylvania jobs; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has resulted in a cumulative \$20 billion loss of visitor spending, with a reduction in state and local tax revenues and job losses continuing to number in the tens of thousands as the industry struggles to recover; and

WHEREAS, the travel industry cannot recover without the full return of in-person meetings and events, by both domestic and international visitors; and

WHEREAS, the rebound of travel will drive the rebuilding of Pennsylvania's small businesses and workforce; and

WHEREAS, we will prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, powering a future that values all cultures, embraces new perspectives, and reflects the faces and ideas of the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the desire to explore and travel will foster a faster recovery, create a more sustainable, seamless, and secure traveler experience and rebuild Pennsylvania's workforce, driving us toward a more prosperous future while fulfilling the Pursuit of Happiness for the millions who will visit.

THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2022 as TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK. I encourage all citizens recognize the critical role tourism plays in Pennsylvania.

GOVER

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-eighth day of April two thousand twenty-two, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-sixth.

TOM WOLF