

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the bicycle is a viable and environmentally sound form of transportation and an excellent form of recreation; and

WHEREAS, millions of New Jerseyans will experience the joys of bicycling during the month of May through educational programs, races, commuting events, trail work days, helmet promotions, charity events or just getting out and going for a ride; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's numerous bike routes attract thousands of bicyclists each year, providing economic, health and scenic benefits to residents of New Jersey and beyond; and

WHEREAS, these bicycling activities and attractions have great potential to have a positive impact on New Jersey's economy and tourism industry and to stimulate economic development by making the state attractive to businesses and residents who enjoy the outdoors and healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, creating bicycle-friendly communities has been shown to improve residents' health, well-being, and quality of life, boost community spirit, improve traffic flow, and reduce pollution; and

WHEREAS, educating bicyclists and motorists as to the proper and safe operation of their vehicles is paramount to ensuring the safety and comfort of all roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Legislature passed the landmark Safe Passing Law, which went into effect on March 1, 2022, and requires drivers to use "due caution" wherever they encounter vulnerable road users, including bicyclists, and move over a lane or provide a distance of at least 4 feet and slow to 25 mph to safely pass; and

WHEREAS, National Bike & Roll to School Day is Wednesday, May 3, 2023, National Ride a Bike Day is Sunday, May 7, 2023, and National Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists, the New Jersey Bike and Walk Coalition, New Jersey's eight Transportation Management Associations, bicycle clubs, schools, parks, recreation departments, police departments, hospitals, companies and civic groups throughout New Jersey will be promoting bicycling as a leisure activity as well as an environmentally-friendly alternative to the automobile during the month of May;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

## MAY 2023 AS BIKE MONTH

Lt. GOVERNOR

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fourth day of May in the year two thousand twentythree, the two hundred forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States.

GOVERNOR