

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation* by *Governor Michael J. Dunleavy*

WHEREAS, Alaska has an abundance of plant and animal species that enhance the natural beauty of our great state, and contribute to the health of our ecosystems and industries; and

WHEREAS, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our forests, grasslands, and other unique ecosystems, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities, as well as economic development opportunities for individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species, such as bees, birds, butterflies, bats, beetles, and others, provide substantial benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy ecosystems, supporting terrestrial wildlife, providing healthy watershed, and more; and

WHEREAS, these species are also essential partners of farmers and ranchers, ensuring full harvests of the crops that produce much of our nation's food supply; and

WHEREAS, pollinator populations have seen a steady decline since the 1950s which may be due to factors such as disease, parasites, viruses; loss of habitat; exposure to pesticides; and lack of genetic diversity; and

WHEREAS, Pollinator Week provides an opportunity to encourage the protection of pollinators; increase the quality and amount of pollinator habitat and forage; reverse pollinator losses; and to help restore pollinator populations to healthy levels.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Dunleavy, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim June 17-23, 2019 as:

### *Alaska Pollinator Week*

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to celebrate and learn more about the important role pollinators play in maintaining the health of our ecosystem, and to consider planting flowers, trees, and other plants on their property to supply pollinators with nectar, pollen, and habitat.

Dated: June 10, 2019



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael J. Dunleavy".

*Michael J. Dunleavy, Governor  
who has also authorized the  
seal of the State of Alaska to  
be affixed to this proclamation.*