WHEREAS pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply, and healthy pollinator populations are critical to the continued economic well-being of agricultural producers; and

WHEREAS pollination plays a vital role in the health of our National Forests and Grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational and economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits necessary for healthy, biodiverse ecosystems, and the United States Department of Agriculture assists producers in promoting wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wildlands;

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of pollinator species’ importance to agriculture and to forest and grassland environments and other ecosystems, I, Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim June 17–23, 2019, as National Pollinator Week. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in celebrating the vital significance of pollinators with appropriate observances and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of June 2019, the two-hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States of America.

SONNY PERDUE
Secretary