



STATE OF MISSOURI  
*Proclamation*  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, after a lifetime of contributions to their families, their communities, and our state, every Missourian deserves to live out his or her days in health and security; yet, every year, hundreds of thousands of older adults are denied that opportunity due to abuse, neglect, or exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, enabling them to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and vital participating members of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, we call attention to this global public health crisis, and we recommit to ending this abuse, supporting those who are victims, and holding perpetrators accountable; and

**WHEREAS**, elder abuse can take many forms, including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect, self-neglect, bullying, abandonment, and financial exploitation, and it is important for all Missourians to learn how to recognize and report mistreatment; and

**WHEREAS**, seniors who experience abuse or neglect face a heightened risk of health complications and premature death, while financial exploitation can rob men and women of the security they have built over a lifetime; and

**WHEREAS**, experts believe that for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported to authorities, as many as 23 cases go unreported; and

**WHEREAS**, every day, the Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri's 10 Area Agencies on Aging, protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, private and nonprofit organizations, and leaders throughout our communities help protect older Missourians from abuse and provide care to those who have already been affected; and

**WHEREAS**, Missouri's Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline responds to reports of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation 365 days per year, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Reports can also be submitted online 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2026, to be

**WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.



  
Mike Kehoe  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
Denny Hoskins  
SECRETARY OF STATE