

## ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

September 2, 2020

as

## GREATEST GENERATION DAY

WHEREAS, from the founding of our nation through our present crisis, Americans have demonstrated a willingness to sacrifice for the common good; and,

WHEREAS, the generation that fought, endured, and secured victory during World War II serves as an inspirational example for the sacrifice put forth by millions of Americans; and,

WHEREAS, during World War II, over 16 million Americans served in uniform, millions more worked in fields and factories to produce the materials for victory, and, at home, all Americans supported the effort by rationing, purchasing war bonds or contributing to the war effort in countless meaningful ways; and,

WHEREAS, for those of the Greatest Generation, September 2, 1945, represented the culmination of 1,336 days of arduous and demanding sacrifice; and,

WHEREAS, as we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the largest conflict the world has seen, we express our deep gratitude to those remaining members of the Greatest Generation who willingly bore such burdens for our freedom and honor over 400,000 Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice during the War, including 2,400 Michiganders who remain unrecovered in distant battlegrounds and beneath the waves; and,

WHEREAS, the Greatest Generation endures as a permanent inspiration to all Americans, as we enjoy the fruits of a world made better by the shared sacrifices of the brave men and women who were part of World War II;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim September 2, 2020, as Greatest Generation Day in Michigan.

