WHEREAS: Oregonians are firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and expanded learning opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS: During the COVID-19 pandemic, afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support youth and are critical supports to help youth recover from this challenging time and address their academic, social, and emotional needs. Afterschool programs provide engaging, hands-on learning and opportunities to connect with caring adults and peers. During the pandemic, programs have innovated to provide remote learning support, virtual programming, care for children of essential workers, meal support, wellness check-ins, and more. Today, programs are supporting young people and families as they navigate the return to school and will continue to innovate to meet ever-changing needs; and

WHEREAS: The State of Oregon has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our students become successful adults; and

WHEREAS: Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 28, 2021, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim October 28, 2021 to be

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

In Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, October 25, 2021.

Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State