

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, from 2013 to 2017 Colorado's aging population increased 17% from 644,356 persons to 772,793 persons; and*

*WHEREAS, Colorado's population of citizens aged 65 and over projected to rise by more than 160% by 2040; and*

*WHEREAS, between 2017 – 2018, one thousand eight hundred and thirty motor vehicle operators 65 years of age and above were involved in fatal traffic crashes; and*

*WHEREAS, from 2017-2018 one hundred forty-seven persons 65 years of age or older died in traffic crashes; and*

*WHEREAS, while some older adults tend to drive safely and are more likely than younger adults to wear a seat belt, take shorter trips, and limit their driving, adults ages 65-84 are overrepresented in the percentage of vehicle crashes involving death or serious injury; and*

*WHEREAS, a number of organizations in Colorado including the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Occupational Therapy Association of Colorado, the Reaching Older Adult Drivers Program; and*

*WHEREAS, the American Automobile Association of Colorado, Health Promotion Partners, LLC, CarFit, the Fitness to Drive Community and Red Hawk all seek to improve older driver safety in Colorado; and*

*WHEREAS, the American Occupational Therapy Association observes the period of December 7-11, 2020 as Older Driver Safety Awareness Week and believes that occupational therapy practitioners have the skills to evaluate a person's overall ability to operate a vehicle safely and provide rehabilitation, if necessary; and*

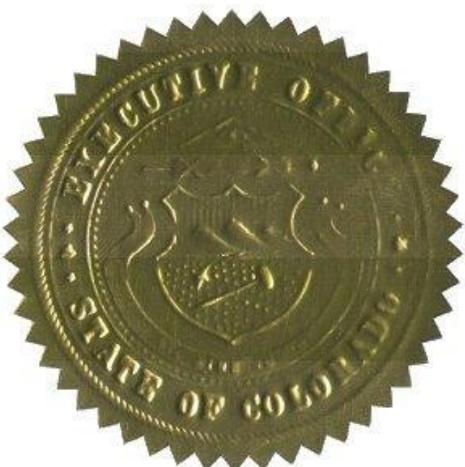
*WHEREAS, it is important to ensure that older adults remain active in the community—including shopping, working, or volunteering—with the confidence that transportation will not be the barrier to their independence;*

*THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado do hereby proclaim the period of time between December 7, 2020 and December 11, 2020 as*

### **OLDER DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK**

*in the State of Colorado.*

*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this seventh day of December, 2020*



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis  
Governor