STATE OF NEW MEXICO **EXECUTIVE OFFICE** SANTA *FE, NEW MEXICO*

**Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Age-related Macular Degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in the United States for persons who are sixty-five and older, with nearly thirty percent of Americans seventy-five and older currently having some form of Age-related Macular Degeneration; and

WHEREAS, eleven million Americans currently have some form of Age-related Macular Degeneration, with the number of Americans with Age-related Macular Degeneration projected to double by 2050; and

WHEREAS, persons who have a family history of Age-related Macular Degeneration, a history of smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, excessive sun exposure, and a diet low in fruits and vegetables are also at greater risk of Age-related Macular Degeneration; and

WHEREAS, the best way to detect Age-related Macular Degeneration is through a comprehensive eye exam; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis can result in treatment options and lifestyle changes that can slow or stop the progression of Age-related Macular Degeneration.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2023 as:

**“Age-Related Macular Degeneration Awareness Month”**

throughout the State of New Mexico.

Attest: Done at the Executive Office this

6th day of January 2023.

Maggie Toulouse Oliver Witness my hand and the Great Seal

Secretary of State of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor