

Proclamation

WHEREAS, school attendance is significantly related to student achievement; and
WHEREAS, too many school absences can keep Arizona's students from reading at grade level by the end of third grade, which is a strong predictor of future academic success, including high school graduation; and
WHEREAS, a student is considered chronically absent when they miss ten percent or more of a school's calendar year for any reason, excused or unexcused; and
WHEREAS, missing 18 days or more of a typical school year, or just two days a month, means a student is chronically absent and at risk of falling behind in school, much more likely to drop out, and less likely to develop the skills they need for career success; and
WHEREAS, rates of chronic absence in Arizona are almost double pre-pandemic levels; and
WHEREAS, the Arizona Chronic Absence Task Force has set the goal to reduce chronic absence to pre-pandemic levels and developed recommendations and resources to address chronic absence in our state; and
WHEREAS, chronic absence is a problem we can solve through evidence-based strategies that involve schools, communities, and families working together.
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2025 as

CHRONIC ABSENCE AWARENESS DAY



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this fifteenth day of September in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fiftieth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE