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WHEREAS, OHIO811, the recognized underground utility protection service in the state of Ohio, each year responds to more than 1.5 million utility locate requests in order to protect the safety of all Ohioans; and

WHEREAS, each year in the state of Ohio, underground excavation around critical utility infrastructure poses a potential, and significant safety hazard to public welfare throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, failure to have underground utilities located and properly identified prior to digging, can result in possible personal injury and even death, service interruptions, or damage to the environment; and

WHEREAS, to enhance public safety and reduce disruptions to the underground utility infrastructure, anyone digging or excavating in the state of Ohio must contact OHIO811 via calling 8-1-1, or online at OHIO811.org, to provide the precise location of their excavating activities in order to make a utility location request prior to any excavation; and

WHEREAS, OHIO811 facilitates understanding amongst stakeholders to foster cooperation amongst those stakeholders and promote public safety to create a safer Ohio; and

WHEREAS, through an efficient and effective communications process, along with proactive education, OHIO811 is protecting all Ohioans from the potentially disruptive and dangers of utility damage and interruption; and

WHEREAS, by following safe digging practices, such as contacting OHIO811 prior to excavation, waiting the required amount of time for utilities to be located and excavating with care around the location marks; excavators, utilities and homeowners are making Ohio a safer place to live and work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize April 2025 as,

## CALL BEFORE YOU DIG MONTH

Mike DeWine
Governor

on this 1st day of April 2025.