

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, representatives from thirteen disparate but United States of America declared independence from a tyrannical king and proposed as their motto, "E Pluribus Unum"—or "Out of Many, One"—a phrase symbolizing the unity of a nation founded on the ideals of liberty, equality and justice; and

WHEREAS, the drafters of the Constitution, seeking to prevent tyranny by any one group, separated the powers of the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary among three branches of government, ensuring no one faction could rule unchecked; and

WHEREAS, throughout our history, the American people have continued to pursue "Out of Many, One," including with the 14th Amendment granting citizenship to all born or naturalized in the United States and the 15th and 19th Amendments by extending voting rights regardless of race or sex; and

WHEREAS, the United States has always consisted of many viewpoints, religions, and experiences, and the trajectory of this country has been to include more voices, thus becoming a true representative democracy of the many; and

WHEREAS, immigrants from around the world continue to come to the United States to embrace our shared democratic values and enrich our culture and economy; and

WHEREAS, public education was designed to serve as a unifying force, providing an economic benefit, instilling values of civic virtue, and bringing social classes together to form "one" educated citizenry; and

WHEREAS, we the people are united by our shared responsibility to contribute to the common good, through jury duty, voting, taxes, and military or public service and in pursuit of legislative efforts that promote healthcare, education, clean air and water, national emergency responses, and national parks; and

WHEREAS, while the United States has made great strides in realizing "E Pluribus Unum," inequalities still persist, and political polarization threatens our shared sense of community; and

WHEREAS, in 1958 President Eisenhower proclaimed Law Day to honor the role of law in the creation of the United States of America, and in 1961 Congress issued a joint resolution declaring May 1, Law Day; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Law Day 2025 is "The Constitution's Promise: Out of Many, One,"

NOW THEREFORE, DO I, Kim Lund, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim May 1, 2025, to be

LAW DAY

I urge everyone to observe this day by promoting law and education and fulfilling our shared civic responsibilities and commitment to the values of liberty, equality, and justice that make us "Out of Many, One."

Signed the

of April 2025

Kim Lund, Mayor City of Bellingham

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