

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK
GOVERNOR



MIKE COONEY
LT. GOVERNOR

October 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to recognize October 15, 2018 as "Bystander Power Day" in the state of Montana.

Bullying is when one or more people repeatedly harm, harass, intimidate, or exclude others. Children who are bullied and children who witness bullying are more likely to develop future academic problems and psychological difficulties such as depression and low self-esteem. Children who regularly bully others are at greater risk of becoming perpetrators of domestic violence, child abuse, hate crimes, sexual abuse, and other illegal behaviors. Bystanders who witness bullying have the power to help stop it by using assertive behavior to report and refuse bullying.

I commend the efforts of the Committee for Children to advocate for policies to enhance, support, and develop educational programs to advance the safety and well-being of children. The Committee for Children reaches over 14 million children each year in more than 70 countries, empowering young people across the world to stand up to bullies and create a safer future.

I encourage all Montanans to use their bystander power to prevent future incidents of bullying by recognizing, reporting, and refusing bullying. Please join me in recognizing October 15, 2018 as "Bystander Power Day" in Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Bullock", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor