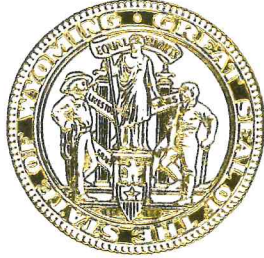


Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, the role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, originally designated as a government official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

WHEREAS, today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals within both public and private entities who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of and complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

WHEREAS, ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations;

WHEREAS, the State of Wyoming provides its constituents with ombuds programs in various levels of state government, including through the Long Term Care Ombudsman for residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities; the Public Records Ombudsman to resolve disputes between public records requesters and government entities; the Equitable Services Ombudsman for addressing questions and concerns from private school officials regarding the provision of equitable education services under federal law; and the Department of Family Services Ombudsman to resolve complaints to the agency; and

WHEREAS, ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

WHEREAS, recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs; and

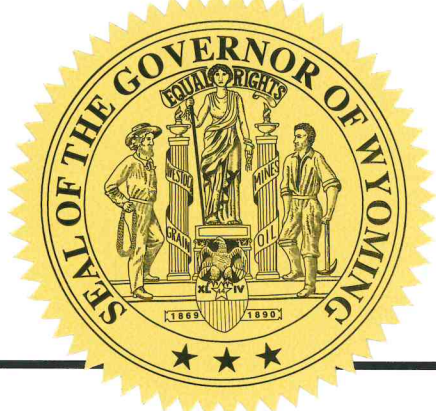
WHEREAS, citizens of Wyoming are encouraged to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professionals in this role across sectors, and to make use of these essential services as needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK GORDON, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim the October 14, 2021 as

OMBUDS DAY

throughout the State of Wyoming.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 28th day of September, 2021.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Gordon".

The Honorable Mark Gordon
33rd Governor of the Great State of Wyoming