

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the state of Nevada, known for its natural beauty, is also home to abundant uranium deposits that, while beneficial in certain applications, naturally break down into radon gas, a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that can pose serious health risks to residents; and

**WHEREAS**, radon exposure is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers and the second leading cause among smokers, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimating that 21,000 Americans lose their lives annually due to lung cancer caused by radon exposure; and

**WHEREAS**, lung cancer tragically claims the lives of more women than breast cancer and all other cancers combined, highlighting the significant risk posed to Nevadans, who face an even higher risk of lung cancer compared to the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that one in four homes in Nevada has elevated levels of radon, making it crucial for residents to be aware that even neighboring homes may have vastly different radon levels; and

**WHEREAS**, testing is the only way to detect elevated radon levels in homes, and this simple, often low-cost process can lead to mitigation efforts that greatly improve home safety and health; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Nevada, Reno Extension's Nevada Radon Education Program, alongside the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, actively supports statewide efforts to educate Nevadans on the importance of testing and mitigating radon levels and to promote radon-resistant new construction; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

### **NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH IN NEVADA**

*Is recognized as January 2025*

*and all residents are urged to protect their health by testing their homes for radon. Free radon test kits will be available throughout January and February at 30 pick-up locations, including Extension offices statewide to help Nevadans ensure a safe and healthy home environment.*