

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the capital markets perform a critical function in the economic development of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, by providing access to funding for business growth and expansion to the private and public sectors, and by providing citizens with access to investment opportunities to preserve and build their wealth;

AND WHEREAS, good financial practices, including budgeting, saving, responsible management of debt, and investing, are essential to the well-being of all Bahamians;

AND WHEREAS, financial and investor education can help Bahamians to improve their capacity to manage their personal finances, to protect themselves from falling prey to various frauds and financial schemes, to invest in a sustainable future, and to be financially prepared for their retirement years;

AND WHEREAS, the Securities Commission of The Bahamas (the Commission), a statutory agency, is charged with overseeing the activities of the capital markets, and has the statutory function to promote public understanding of the capital markets and its participants, as well as the risks, benefits, and liabilities associated with investing;

AND WHEREAS, recent health and climate events, among other things, have reinforced the need for citizens and the community to undertake measures to ensure their financial resilience:

AND WHEREAS, sustainable investment decisions can reduce the negative societal and environmental impacts of climate change;

AND WHEREAS, the Commission is participating in the global World Investor Week campaign being promoted by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), to raise awareness about the importance of investor education and protection, and has organized activities to bring greater awareness to this important issue;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip E. Davis, Prime Minister of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2023 as "INVESTOR EDUCATION MONTH".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have

hereunto set my Hand and Seal this _____ day of October, 2023.

PHILIP E. DAVIS

PRIME MINISTER