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 improve their capacity to manage their personal finances, protect themselves from fraud and financial schemes, invest in a sustainable future, and 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 investor education and other conditions that facilitate innovation and development of the financial markets within The Bahamas;

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

AND WHEREAS, advances in FinTech, including digital finance, digital assets, online trading platforms, and artificial intelligence-assisted financial planning, present both risks and opportunities for investors;
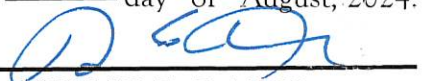
AND WHEREAS, the Commission is participating in the World Investor Week Campaign, being promoted by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), to raise awareness about the importance of investor education and protection, and has organized activities to bring greater awareness to this important issue;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip E. Davis, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, do hereby proclaim the month of **October 2024** as **"INVESTOR EDUCATION MONTH"**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have Hereunto set my Hand and Seal This _28__ day of August, 2024.

PHILIP E. DAVIS
PRIME MINISTER