WHEREAS Utah’s farmers and ranchers provide citizens with access to healthful, locally, and regionally produced foods through farmers markets, which have steadily increased in numbers in the past two decades, and are expanding and evolving to accommodate the demand for a diverse array of agricultural products, and

WHEREAS farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby contributing approximately $9 billion each year to the U.S. economy, and

WHEREAS farmers markets serve as significant outlets by which small-to-medium, new and beginning, and veteran agricultural producers market agricultural products, generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide, and

WHEREAS the State of Utah recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers and ranchers; generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation; build community connections through rural and urban linkages; and more;

NOW, THEREFORE, to further awareness of farmers markets’ contributions to Utah’s communities, I, Craig W Buttars, Commissioner of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, do hereby proclaim the week of August 7-13, 2022, as Utah Farmers Market Week, in conjunction with the observance of National Farmers Market Week. I call upon Utah citizens to celebrate farmers markets with appropriate observance and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 26 day of July 2022, the two-hundred forty-fourth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Craig W Buttars