

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Senator John Sidney McCain III, born on August 29, 1936, came from a long lineage distinguished by military service and an unshakable devotion to American values. He enrolled in the United States Naval Academy and carried the torch once held by his father and grandfather, both four-star admirals; and

WHEREAS, after graduating in 1958 and completing training to become a naval aviator, Senator McCain was stationed in the Asia-Pacific and dispatched on missions over Vietnam. After his aircraft was downed in North Vietnam, he was made a prisoner of war (POW) for five years. As a POW, he refused an early release, enduring hardship with his fellow prisoners; and

WHEREAS, after years of torture, Senator McCain stood unbroken and with a fortified resolve that propelled him to manifest an identity centered around character-driven leadership. His dedication to service and resilience in the face of adversity became the principal tenet in his steadfast legacy; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain channeled these commitments and chartered a new mission when he launched his Arizona congressional bid. In his four-decade-long career, he voiced the aspirations of all peoples, notwithstanding partisan or geopolitical divides; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain's bipartisan campaign to restore relations with Vietnam healed decade-old wounds and demonstrated the power of diplomacy over division. Thirty years of normalized relations with Vietnam is a testament to the character and conviction Senator McCain instilled in American diplomacy; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain was an unassailable advocate for veterans and active-duty service members, and his support was evident at home, in the halls of Congress, and alongside them in the field. He recognized the importance of their sacrifice in securing the freedoms and values that define the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain cherished democracy and envisioned a world where all could live with dignity and freedom, unburdened by restrictive and authoritarian regimes. He recognized that self-determination must be defended wherever it is threatened and nurtured wherever it takes root; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain, unbroken by political and personal trials, pressed forward in his commitment to the American people with unwavering courage. He showed that leadership is not measured by popularity or power, but by the courage to do what is right; and

WHEREAS, Senator McCain was a unifying voice across the political rift and advanced legislation that bridged the divide. His numerous successes in these efforts showed the best that America could be and set a standard that continues to guide those who share his values.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim August 25 - 31, 2025, as,

JOHN MCCAIN DEMOCRACY WEEK



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-second day of August in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fiftieth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE