WHEREAS, the procurement of goods and services has long been recognized as the foundation of commerce; and

WHEREAS, the procurement and materials management profession has a significant role in the quality, efficiency and profitability of business and government throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the procurement and materials management profession works for private, public, profit and nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Louisiana, thousands of dedicated procurement professionals in businesses and state and municipal governments strive daily to reduce costs, encourage competition and promote high ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, Louisianans should be made aware of the savings of tax dollars, benefits to industry and career opportunities to be found in professional procurement; and

WHEREAS, the procurement and materials management profession has tremendous influence on the economic conditions in the United States, with an accumulative procurement power running into the billions; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Administration, Office of State Procurement along with the Louisiana Chapters of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, National Association of State Procurement Officials, and other associations around the globe are holding activities and special events to further educate and inform the general public on the role of procurement within business; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana is the namesake of the wisest and most valuable procurement in America's history, the Louisiana Purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim March 2020 as

PROFESSIONAL PROCUREMENT MONTH in the State of Louisiana.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 1st day of March, A.D. 2020.

[Signature]
Governor of Louisiana