WHEREAS, this year marks the 23rd annual Earth Science Week, designated by the American Geosciences Institute to help the public better understand and appreciate the earth sciences; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2020, "Earth Materials in Our Lives," emphasizes ways Earth materials impact humans – and the ways human activity impacts these materials – in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Earth Science Week activities will encourage individuals of all backgrounds, ages, and abilities to engage with the geosciences, whether as a geoscience professional, a hobbyist, or through civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, it is important to remind people that earth science is all around us, encourage Earth stewardship through understanding, and motivate geoscientists to share their knowledge and enthusiasm about the Earth; and

WHEREAS, Earth Science Week 2020 learning resources and activities will engage young people and others in exploring the relationship between Earth materials and people; and

WHEREAS, this year’s theme will promote public understanding of geoscience and stewardship of the planet, especially in terms of these raw materials; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to discover, develop, and conserve the mineral, energy, and water resources needed for the nation’s continued prosperity; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of earth science is essential to the design and construction of safe highways, bridges, and buildings; and

WHEREAS, it is important to promote awareness about how geoscientists, geographers, and other mapping professionals create geologic maps that represent land formations, natural resource deposits, bodies of water, fault lines, volcanic activity, weather patterns, travel routes, parks, businesses, population distribution, or shared geologic heritage; and

WHEREAS, the earth sciences provide the basis for preparing for and mitigating natural hazards such as floods, landslides, earthquakes, and sinkholes; and

WHEREAS, geological and hydrological factors are vital to land management and land use decisions at local, state, regional, national, and international levels; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of the earth sciences helps us manage our greatest challenges and make vital contributions to our understanding of, and respect for nature.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 11-17, 2020, to be

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 18th day of September, 2020.