PROCLAMATION

REMEMBER REPAIR TOGETHER DAY

October 27, 2019

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2018, violence struck the Tree of Life synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. In an act of bigotry and hatred, a gunman attacked the Dor Hadash, New Light, and Tree of Life*Or L’Simcha congregations worshipping at the Tree of Life synagogue; and

WHEREAS, all of Pennsylvania stands in solidarity with the Tree of Life community, their families, the Jewish community, and all those who continue to mourn in Pittsburgh and across the commonwealth. Horrific acts of violence like this remind us of the fragile nature of human life, and of just how much we depend upon one another; and

WHEREAS, though events such as these leave sorrow, heartache, and fear in their wake, we can also find hope in the outpouring of love and compassion evident in the Pittsburgh community and across the commonwealth. In the aftermath of this act of violent extremism, Pennsylvanians reached out to comfort and support one another, to reject bigotry and anti-Semitism, and to affirm the bonds of kindness, acceptance, and love that define our commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, William Penn founded our commonwealth on the principles of inclusion and tolerance, and today Pennsylvanians continue to demonstrate that true strength comes not from uniformity, but from diversity. The bonds we build between individuals and communities strengthen our commonwealth and our world; and

WHEREAS, as we commemorate the events of October 27, 2018, we remember those killed and honor the wounded by building bridges between individuals and between communities. To combat hatred, we must cultivate bonds of friendship and understanding and celebrate the diversity of our commonwealth.

THEREFORE, in memory of the victims of the shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue, and in honor of the wounded congregants, wounded law enforcement officials, and the entire Jewish community, as well as those in the Pittsburgh community and across our commonwealth who fight hatred and bigotry with love, inclusion, and kindness, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 27, 2019, as REMEMBER REPAIR TOGETHER DAY. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to build bridges of understanding, welcome, and friendship. This is a day for action in the name of love and inclusion.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this eighteenth day of October two thousand nineteen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-fourth.

TOM WOLF
Governor