0/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/0 PROCLAMATION **WHEREAS**, substance use disorder has a profound and often tragic impact on individuals, families, and the community, including the decline of physical and mental health, the breakdown of families, the demands on public safety and health care systems, and, the overall safety, livability and strength of a community; and **WHEREAS**, individuals who start using substances when young are more likely to develop a substance use disorder later in life; and, **WHEREAS**, youth prevention aims to stop use of all substances under the age of 21 and stop misuse of doctor-prescribed medications before it starts by strengthening protective buffers and reducing risk factors, addressing social determinants of health, being culturally responsive, and supporting sustainable efforts; and **WHEREAS**, October 23-31 is recognized as National Red Ribbon Week, which is the oldest and largest national drug prevention campaign and program in the U.S.; and **WHEREAS**, Red Ribbon Week serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate and develop healthy, happy, and brave children and youth through drug prevention activities celebrating a drug-free life; and **NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Julie Hoy, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim October 2025, as NATIONAL YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION MONTH & OCTOBER 27-31 AS RED RIBBON WEEK and ask the community to observe Red Ribbon Week by providing programs, activities, resources, and information to youth and their families. DATED this twenty-seventh day of October 2025. Julie Hoy Mayor /OC/OC/OC/OC/OC/OC/OC/