

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY DAY
OCTOBER 30, 2023**

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's State public health laboratory system is celebrating 125 years of monitoring, assessing, and assuring community health; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The State public health laboratory system, as the oldest continuously operating agency in the State health department, has provided a century of dedicated scientific service to the citizens and local health departments of the State; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Our State public health laboratory's historic accomplishments range from developing early tests to assess food safety and environmental pollution to implementing the first State-based program to screen for hereditary disorders and more recently developing testing programs to identify and characterize emerging and reemerging threats to public health and the environment such as pandemic respiratory viruses (influenza and SARS-CoV-2), mosquito and tickborne illnesses (West Nile virus infections and Lyme disease), antibiotic resistance, fluorinated forever chemicals (PFAS); and*
- WHEREAS,** *The benefits of reduced suffering and health care savings associated with public health testing in such areas as rabies, drinking water quality, environmental pollution, and hereditary disorders amount to millions of dollars a year, and the value of the State's public health laboratory system as a technical and training resource for developing and transferring new laboratory knowledge and methods cannot be duplicated in other State agencies.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 30, 2023 as MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY DAY in Maryland and call upon the people of our state to join in this observance.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 30th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-three



Wes Moore
Governor

Oruna Miller

Susan C. Lee
Lt. Governor

Secretary of State