WHEREAS, hunting, firearms and the shooting sports are part of the history, tradition, and culture of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is not only responsible for the sound management and conservation of wildlife but also the teaching of principles of ethical hunting, firearms safety, and responsible firearm use; and

WHEREAS, the hundreds of thousands of sportsmen and hunters in Oklahoma, teach others to understand the responsibilities of owning and using a firearm, while also working to ensure that our natural resources are safeguarded; and

WHEREAS, the firearm and ammunition industry contributed more than $414.6 million to the Oklahoma economy in 2021 and supported 2,702 jobs; and

WHEREAS, those engaged in the shooting sports and hunting contributed more than $9.1 million in funding for Oklahoma wildlife and conservation efforts through the Pittman-Robertson excise tax levied on firearms and ammunition in 2021; and

WHEREAS, in August 2022, organizations, businesses and others recognize National Shooting Sports Month to spotlight shooting sports activities enjoyed by millions of Americans and to continue to promote a culture of safety and responsibility;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Governor J. Kevin Stitt, do hereby proclaim August 2022 as

"Shooting Sports Month"

in the State of Oklahoma

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this twenty-ninth day of July, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and fourteenth year.