## XIONG UNITED, INC. HMONG GIRLS EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the practice of forced or nonconsensual "kidnapping" of Hmong girls for the purpose of marriage has existed among many Hmong families and clans throughout history; and

WHEREAS, Xiong clan members have also participated in said practice; and

WHEREAS, said practice still exists in many parts of the world to varying degrees; and

WHEREAS, said practice has caused irreparable harm to Hmong girls, their families, and the Hmong community; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bee Kevin Xiong, President of Xiong United, Inc., by the authority invested in me by the Board of Directors and Xiong clan members throughout the United States of America, and with support from Xiong clan members in other parts of the world, do hereby proclaim said practice to be an assault on the basic human rights and dignity of Hmong girls, an uncivilized means of acquiring a bride, and simply intolerable; and

Call upon all Hmong, especially Xiong clan members, world-wide to *immediately* stop this barbaric practice; and

To proactively support and defend the rights and dignity of all Hmong girls, including but not limited to the right to choose one's spouse.

PROCLAIMED this 4th day of September, 2021.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of Xiong United, Inc. to be herein affixed.

Bee Kevin Xiong, President