



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 1, 2026

175th Anniversary of the City of Sonora

On behalf of the state of California, I am pleased to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Sonora, as the state also commemorates 175 years of statehood and the nation commemorates 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The City of Sonora has stood as a testament to resilience, heritage, and community. As the 11th city incorporated in California on May 1, 1851, Sonora remains an integral part of the Golden State's rich history. Founded during the California Gold Rush by miners from Sonora, Mexico, Sonora has grown from a mining settlement into a vibrant and enduring community. Known as the "Queen of Southern Mines," Sonora played a central role as an economic and civic hub of the Mother Lode region.

The City of Sonora's proximity to the nearby state forest and national park, the city's natural beauty, and its charming historic downtown continue to attract visitors. Over the years, Sonora has not only preserved this rich history serving as an economic center for miners, it has also evolved into a regional epicenter for community life, cultural heritage, and local commerce in the Sierra foothills.

On this occasion, California joins the City of Sonora in commemorating this momentous occasion. I am wishing all the residents of Sonora a joyous 175th anniversary.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Gavin Newsom, written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California