

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois, along with the World Health Organization and the United States Breastfeeding Committee, acknowledges the benefits of breastfeeding for infants and their parents; and,

WHEREAS, promoting and supporting all milk-feeding families regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, education level, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that makes every family and community unique; and,

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General's "Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding" identifies breastfeeding as a national health priority and proven prevention strategy; and,

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive human milk feeding as the most developmentally appropriate nourishment for infants for the first six months of life, with continued human milk feeding until two years or beyond to optimize infant health, growth, and development; and,

WHEREAS, breastfeeding plays a vital role in managing the double burden of malnutrition by providing food security, reducing inequalities, and providing immunologic protection for Illinois' youngest people; and,

WHEREAS, protecting the right to breastfeed and providing support in employment settings that make breastfeeding comfortable, acceptable, and accessible in the workplace setting while recognizing that pregnant people and new parents who want to breastfeed should have the right; and,

WHEREAS, the right to breastfeed should be without barriers in their communities, employment setting, and without discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois commends advocates throughout the state working to build individual, family, and community support for breastfeeding and joins them in celebrating and promoting awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding for all babies and parents, now and in the future;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim August 2023 as National Breastfeeding Month in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-SIXTH day of JULY, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-THREE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIFTH.



Alexi Giannoulis
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR