

STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Proclamation

WHEREAS, exclusive breastfeeding is the foundation for life-long health and wellness; and,

WHEREAS, exclusive breastfeeding is recommended and supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics and many other health organizations, as providing benefits that are not received by partially breastfed infants; and,

WHEREAS, infants and young children receiving human milk are protected against serious long term health conditions including obesity, respiratory and ear infections, asthma, allergies, diarrhea, childhood cancers, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and less than optimal brain development; and,

WHEREAS, breastfeeding women have reduced incidence of ovarian and breast cancers, diabetes and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding promotes strong family bonds while providing economical and societal benefits through lowering health care costs; and,

WHEREAS, establishing donor human milk banks ensures all infants have access to breast milk; and,

WHEREAS, in the event of a disaster depriving people of food, shelter and resources needed to survive, breastfeeding is the first line of defense for safe infant feeding; and,

WHEREAS, a united effort is needed from business, communities, governmental leaders and health care providers to support exclusive breastfeeding; and,

WHEREAS, government leaders provide guidance on implementing the Illinois Blueprint to Breastfeeding and hospitals pursue baby friendly designation while health care providers support the ten steps to successful breastfeeding, all are responsible for supporting the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim August 2015 as **BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION MONTH** in Illinois to uphold a mother's decision for a healthy beginning for her child and to encourage our Illinois employers and businesses to support the needs of breastfeeding mothers.*

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-FIRST day of JULY, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
FIFTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and NINETY-SEVENTH.

Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR