

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois, along with World Health Organization and the United States Breastfeeding Committee, acknowledge 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, while data shows that Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) families have high breastfeeding initiation rates, aggregated data from these communities also masks diversity and disparities in duration and exclusivity rates; and,

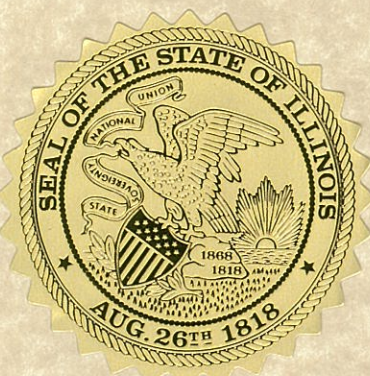
WHEREAS, we acknowledge that there is a lack of true understanding of the experiences of AANHPI families who choose to feed human milk to their children and that, as a result, resources may not be directed to many vulnerable AANHPI communities; and,

WHEREAS, while August is National Breastfeeding Month, it is essential to have a week that recognizes the unique cultures of these diverse AANHPI families and supports their efforts to reclaim their traditions of breastfeeding; and,

WHEREAS, this week, the State of Illinois applauds the community-based organizations across our state that are committed to the important work of promoting diversity in the lactation field and of changing systems and structures to better support breastfeeding families in breastfeeding, improving parental and child health, now and in the future;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim August 15 - 21, 2023, as Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Breastfeeding Week 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 Giannouli
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR