

STATE OF INDIANA  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

Executive Order

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS,** World Breastfeeding Week celebrates the lasting impact that breastfeeding has on the health of mothers, infants and families and recognizes that the promotion and support of breastfeeding must be an ongoing commitment to safeguard the wellness and economic health of Hoosier communities; and

**WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is recognized by the Indiana State Department of Health and major medical organizations, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), as the preferred method of infant feeding; and

**WHEREAS,** breastfeeding promotes overall health, growth and development, and it helps to prevent infections during infancy, as well as asthma, obesity, diabetes, and other chronic illnesses in childhood and, later, in adulthood; and

**WHEREAS,** mothers benefit from breastfeeding as it not only advances postpartum recovery and return to pre-pregnancy weight, but it also decreases the risk of ovarian, uterine and endometrial cancers, as well as anemia, diabetes and osteoporosis; and

**WHEREAS,** national estimates suggest that if 90 percent of U.S. babies were breastfed exclusively for six months, the nation would save \$13 billion per year in healthcare costs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Indiana State Department of Health is dedicated to educating all Hoosiers about the significant physical, social and emotional benefits of breastfeeding for mothers and infants and is committed to helping individuals and families meet their breastfeeding goals; and

**WHEREAS,** Hoosier citizens can be powerful advocates in their own communities to promote breastfeeding through grassroots efforts, coalition building and the normalization of breastfeeding in public, at work sites and in all environments in which a mother can feed her infant; and

**WHEREAS,** the Indiana State Department of Health recognizes that it is vital for Hoosier families to have access to accurate breastfeeding information to make informed choices about the health and care of infants, and our state supports increased efforts by hospitals, non-profit organizations, and health care providers to encourage breastfeeding;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael R. Pence, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2015 as**

**BREASTFEEDING WEEK**

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

*To Testimony Offered, Therein*

*set my hand and cause to be affixed the*

*Great Seal of State. Done at the*

*City of Indianapolis, this 1st*

*day of August in the year of our*

*Lord 2015 and of the Independence*

*of the United States 239.*



BY THE GOVERNOR:

*Michael R. Pence*