

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois, along with the 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 human 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 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, the State of Illinois has protected the right to pump with reasonable accommodations since 1991, one of the first to do so, and expanded protections in 2001 with the Nursing Mothers in the Workplace Act; and,

WHEREAS, the federal government acknowledges the contributions of nursing mothers and parents in the workplace by the implementation of the PUMP Act of 2023, which expands rights to many lactating employees with a child under one-year-old so they may have the time and space to pump at work; and,

WHEREAS, recognizing the vital role working and pumping parents play in the workforce, and supporting their right to pump if they so choose, aligns with the Healthy People 2030 objective to increase the proportion of infants breastfed at six months and one year; and,

WHEREAS, protecting the right to breastfeed or pump in workplace settings that are comfortable, acceptable, and accessible without barriers and without discrimination is essential to reducing infant morbidity and mortality; 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 September 1-7, 2024, as **Workplace Lactation 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 SIXTH day of AUGUST, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-FOUR, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIFTH.*



Alexi Gianouli
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR