

STATE OF KANSAS



PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the mission of the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition (KBC) is to improve the state's health by working collaboratively to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is to protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans; and

WHEREAS, KBC and KDHE envision breastfeeding as the norm for infant and young child feeding throughout Kansas; and

WHEREAS, breast milk is the preferred and most appropriate source of nutrition for infants, adapting over time to meet the changing needs of the growing infant; and

WHEREAS breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy, protecting both infants and mothers from a host of chronic and acute diseases and conditions and building a foundation for life-long health and wellness; and

WHEREAS the act of breastfeeding builds a strong emotional connection between the mother and infant, a bond that lasts a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding provides a safe, reliable, and renewable food source, especially critical during a natural disaster and emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, employers that provide workplace lactation support experience an impressive return on investment, including lower health care costs, absenteeism, and turnover rates, and improved morale, job satisfaction, and productivity; and

WHEREAS, all major medical authorities recommend that mothers breastfeed exclusively for six months and continue breastfeeding for at least the first year of a child's life, yet breastfeeding rates continue to decline after the early weeks; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin has issued The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding, calling on health care providers, employers, insurers, policymakers, researchers, and the community at large to support mothers in reaching their personal breastfeeding goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim August 2021 as

National Breastfeeding Month

in Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of
the State this 1st day of
August, A.D. 2021



BY THE GOVERNOR:

Laura Kelly

Scott Sisk
Secretary of State

Cheryl E. ...
Assistant Secretary of State