

**EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is one of the best investments for saving lives and improving the health, social and economic development of individuals, families, communities, states and nations; and

WHEREAS, breast milk is naturally and perfectly designed for baby's nutritional and immunological needs as breast milk actively helps newborns avoid disease in a variety of ways; and

WHEREAS, the health benefits for mom and baby increase proportionately with the length of time a mother breastfeeds; therefore, the longer a mother breastfeeds the greater the reduction in risk of infectious diseases, SIDS, ear infections, respiratory illness, childhood obesity, and certain childhood cancers compared to a formula-fed infant; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding leads to a greater reduction in risk of breast, uterine, and ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes, and high blood pressure for the breastfeeding mother; and

WHEREAS, long term breastfeeding success requires a strong support system from fathers, families, employers, childcare centers, healthcare providers, and community members; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota joins the nation and world in celebrating, supporting and promoting breastfeeding during World Breastfeeding Week and the entire month of August with the 2020 theme, "Support Breastfeeding for a Healthier Planet" as each ounce of mother's milk counts toward a healthy environment, healthy body, healthy mind, and healthy community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 2020,

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.




Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:


Steven J. Barnett
Secretary of State