

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is one of the most powerful preventive measures a mother can take to promote the health of her infant, including reducing the child's risk for becoming overweight or obese. Breastfeeding lays a foundation for health throughout childhood and even into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, breast milk is the only perfectly suited, natural nutrition for infants; it is easily digested and contains antibodies from the mother that pass to the infant, providing protection from illness, including asthma, diabetes, ear infections, and allergies, and more. Healthier infants require fewer health care interventions, and studies show that breastfeeding can reduce health care costs; and

WHEREAS, support from the community, health care providers, employers, and family members can help ensure breastfeeding success; and

WHEREAS, employers can lower health care costs and absenteeism by supporting breastfeeding employees; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is recommended as the optimal nutrition for infants by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the United States Surgeon General, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Academy of Family Physicians, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, National Association of WIC Directors, UNICEF, WHO and the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim August 2015 as:

Breastfeeding Awareness Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to learn more about the benefits of breastfeeding and how to support breastfeeding families.

Dated: July 17, 2015



Bill Walker

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*