

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH AUGUST 2024

- WHEREAS,** *Breastfeeding is a critical factor in preventing hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Closing the gap by having breastfeeding support available to all mothers allows those who breastfeed to meet their goals and provides the healthiest feeding for the first six months of life, as well as in combination with family foods through two years of life or longer; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Closing the gap by supporting all mothers who breastfeed protects our planet as breastfeeding is a non-polluting, renewable baby food source, ecologically nurturing the parent-infant bond and ensuring environmental sustainability; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Closing the gap through workplace support, including parental leave and milk expression breaks, enhances breastfeeding success while also sustaining the economy; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Everyone, including government, healthcare providers, employers, the media, and families, share the responsibility of closing the gap by supporting all who breastfeed; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Marylanders are encouraged to breastfeed their children and close the gap by sharing the responsibility to protect, promote, and support all breastfeeding families, aligning with international, national, and Maryland goals, including those of the United States Surgeon General, federal laws, and the Maryland Hospital Breastfeeding Policy Recommendations, as well as the American Academy of Pediatrics and health care professionals.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim AUGUST 2024 as BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland and commend this observance to all citizens.



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of August
Two Thousand and twenty-four*

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State

[Signature]
Secretary of State