



WHEREAS, the United States has become increasingly diverse in the last century and is projected to be even more diverse in the coming decades; and,

WHEREAS, although health indicators such as life expectancy and infant mortality have improved for most Americans, some minorities experience a disproportionate burden of preventable disease, death, and disability compared with non-minorities; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' four major racial and ethnic minority groups account for approximately 39 percent of the state's population; and,

WHEREAS, celebrated every year in April, National Minority Health Month is an effort to raise awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minority populations; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Center for Minority Health Services at the Illinois Department of Public Health is to improve the health and well-being of Illinois' minority populations through the development of health policies and culturally and linguistically appropriate programs to eliminate health disparities; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with this year's National Minority Health Month theme, "Partnering for Health Equity," the Illinois Department of Public Health's Center for Minority Health Services will continue its vital work of building partnerships across the state in order to eliminate health disparities;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as **NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH** in Illinois to accelerate health equity and make the state of Illinois a stronger and healthier state.*

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 FOURTEENTH day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.

Dese White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner

GOVERNOR