

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

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' major racial and ethnic minority groups, account for approximately 38.4 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, "#VaccineReady" the Illinois Department of Public Health's Center for Minority Health Services will raise awareness on the disproportionate impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on racial and ethnic minority and American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and will focus on empowering communities to get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines, share accurate vaccine information, participate in clinical trials, get vaccinated when the time comes and practice COVID-19 safety measure;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby recognize April 2021, as **National Minority Health Month in Illinois**, in support of the Center for Minority Health's efforts to help eliminate health disparities, 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 THIRTY-FIRST *day of* MARCH, *in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-ONE, *and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and THIRD.

Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR