WHEREAS: There are many physical and mental health benefits of human milk for babies and their parents, and the State of Minnesota promotes inclusive support for all milk-feeding families regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, education level, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that makes every family and community unique; and

WHEREAS: As stated in the Surgeon General’s ‘Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding,’ breast/chest feeding is a proven and primary prevention strategy that builds a foundation for lifelong health and wellness, with all major medical authorities recommending exclusive human milk feeding for the first six months of life, and continued human milk feeding for up to two years; and

WHEREAS: The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), local health departments, and tribal organizations throughout Minnesota promote and support exclusive breastfeeding as the optimal method of infant feeding through nutrition programs such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); and

WHEREAS: While there has been progress in codifying and protecting the right to breast/chest feed, many pregnant people and new parents who want to breast/chest feed continue to face barriers in their communities, the health care system, and employment settings, including racial and ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota commends the parental health and lactation advocates working to build individual, family, and community support for breast/chest feeding and joins them in celebrating and promoting awareness of the benefits of human milk for all babies and parents, now and in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim August 2022, as:

BREASTFEEDING MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 5th day of August.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE