



WHEREAS, experts agree that nutrition status is an important social influencer of health and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of healthcare institutions; and

WHEREAS, inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent in many groups, including vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients, minority populations, and populations with limited access to resources; and

WHEREAS, illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; and

WHEREAS, nutrition is a human right and a social determinant of health, and malnutrition is intensified by disparities, inequities, and social isolation and is further compounded by food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, disease-related malnutrition is a highly prevalent form of malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, about 20-50% of hospitalized adult patients have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, up to 27% of hospitalized pediatric patients have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have up to 1.7 times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, the 30-day hospital readmission rate is 2.7 times higher in patients with malnutrition than in patients with normal nutritional status; and

WHEREAS, readmitted malnourished patients are twice as likely to be diagnosed with an infection; and

WHEREAS, the duration of mechanical ventilation is significantly longer in patients with malnutrition compared to well-nourished patients; and

WHEREAS, malnourished hospitalized patients face approximately double or greater mortality risk compared to their well-nourished counterparts; and

WHEREAS, twenty to forty percent of adults in the community are at risk or have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in the United States;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of time between September 8, and September 12, 2025, as

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this eighth day of September, 2025



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor