



In the Name and by the Authority of  
**THE STATE OF**  
**OHIO**



**WHEREAS**, experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure 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**, 32-54% of hospitalized adult patients have malnutrition; and

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

**WHEREAS**, malnutrition leads to more complications, falls, and hospital readmissions, and it negatively affects quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention are ways to improve nutrition in Ohio and the United States;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, *Mike DeWine and Jim Tressel*, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 14-18, 2026 as

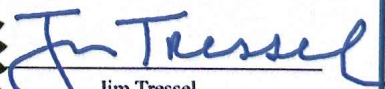
## **MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK**

on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026;



Mike DeWine  
Governor





Jim Tressel  
Lieutenant Governor