

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, experts agree nutrition status is a direct measure of health and 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 and minority populations, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other groups; 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, which totals over two million hospital stays per year; and,*

*WHEREAS, every day, approximately 15,000 hospital patients with malnutrition go undiagnosed; and,*

*WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition and the 30-day hospital readmission rate is 2.2 times higher than patients without malnutrition; and,*

*WHEREAS, readmitted malnourished patients have 22 percent higher hospital costs than readmitted patients with no malnutrition; and,*

*WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times the mortality rate of all hospitalized patients; and,*

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

*WHEREAS, malnutrition leads to more complications, falls, and readmissions, and plays a role in cognitive deterioration, decreased functional capacity, and affects the quality of life; and,*

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

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 16 - 20, 2024, as Malnutrition Awareness Week in Illinois.*

*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 TWENTY-NINTH day of AUGUST, in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
*TWENTY-FOUR, and of the State of Illinois,*  
*two hundred and FIFTH.*



*Alexi Giannoulis*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR