
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION
by the
Governor of the State of California

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is an important part of preventive health care for both mothers and infants; and

WHEREAS, from reducing the risk of breast and ovarian cancers to decreasing the presence of osteoporosis, breastfeeding provides mothers with a variety of short-term and long-term health benefits; and

WHEREAS, mother's milk provides infants with ideal nutrition and contributes to optimal growth, emotional well-being, and enhanced cognitive development; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding reduces the incidence and severity of specific diseases, such as respiratory infections, ear infections, gastrointestinal infections, obesity, diabetes, asthma, and some cancers; and

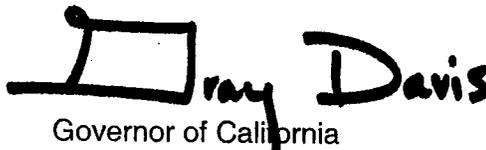
WHEREAS, by limiting health care costs and reducing employee absenteeism attributed to child illness, breastfeeding has also proven to be economically sound; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2010 Objective encourages women to breastfeed their infants for six months or longer; and

WHEREAS, during the month of August 2001, government agencies, community organizations and individuals will celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month to increase awareness about the importance of breastfeeding;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GRAY DAVIS, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim August, 2001 as "Breastfeeding Awareness Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 26th day of July 2001.


Governor of California

ATTEST:



Secretary of State

