

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that all North Carolinians are protected from all vaccine-preventable diseases is even more important than ever before; and

WHEREAS, National Immunization Awareness Month highlights the importance of fighting against infectious diseases using vaccines, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) declared one of the top ten public health accomplishments of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the continued immunization efforts of parents, families, doctors, public health systems, institutions, and health care professionals has significantly reduced the threat of many infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, people need to receive immunizations throughout their lives, including the flu vaccine every flu season; and

WHEREAS, pregnant women in particular need to make sure they receive all the necessary vaccines to protect their own health as well as the health of their infants, who are especially vulnerable during the first few months of life; pregnant women also need to receive the flu vaccine because they are at a higher risk of hospitalization and death than nonpregnant women, and because vaccination can protect babies up to six months after birth while they are too young to receive the vaccine themselves; and

WHEREAS, vaccines are demonstrated to be an exceptionally safe method of preventing disease, as they are thoroughly tested before licensing and carefully monitored to ensure safety; and

WHEREAS, vaccines are a highly cost-effective way to prevent disease, as they protect not only individuals but entire communities by reducing and preventing the spread of infectious diseases;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August, 2020, as "IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Roy Cooler Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-fourth day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.