STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *the United States has become increasingly diverse in the last century and is projected to be even more diverse in the coming decades; and,*

WHEREAS, *although health indicators such as life expectancy and infant mortality have improved for most Americans, some minorities experience a disproportionate burden of preventable disease, death, and disability compared to non-minorities; and,*

WHEREAS, *Illinois' four major racial and ethnic minority groups account for approximately 39 percent of the state's population; and,*

WHEREAS, *celebrated every year in April, National Minority Health Month is an effort to raise awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minority populations; and,*

WHEREAS, *the mission of the Center for Minority Health Services at the Illinois Department of Public Health is to improve the health and well-being of Illinois' minority populations through the development of health policies and culturally and linguistically appropriate programs to eliminate health disparities; and,*

WHEREAS, *in accordance with this year's National Minority Health Month theme, "Active & Healthy," the Illinois Department of Public Health's Center for Minority Health Services will raise awareness about the important role an active lifestyle plays in keeping us healthy and emphasize the health benefits of incorporating even small amounts of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity into our schedules; and,*

WHEREAS, *physical activity promotes health and reduces the risk of chronic diseases and other conditions that are more common or severe among racial and ethnic minority groups;*

THEREFORE, *I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as* ***MINORITY HEALTH MONTH*** *in Illinois in support of the Center for Minority Health's efforts to help eliminate health disparities, accelerate health equity, and make Illinois a stronger and healthier state.*

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 FOURTH *day of* APRIL*, in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and* NINETEEN*, and of the State of Illinois, two hundred and* FIRST*.*

SECRETARY OF STATE

GOVERNOR