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 with non-minorities; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois’ major racial and ethnic minority groups, account for approximately 38.4 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, “#VaccineReady” the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Center for Minority Health Services will raise awareness on the disproportionate impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on racial and ethnic minority and American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and will focus on empowering communities to get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines, share accurate vaccine information, participate in clinical trials, get vaccinated when the time comes and practice COVID-19 safety measure;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby recognize April 2021, as National 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 the state of 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 THIRTY-FIRST day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-ONE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and THIRD.

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE

[Signature]
GOVERNOR