

**Proclaiming August Breastfeeding Awareness Month**

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that breastmilk is the optimal food for the growth and development of infants. Breastfeeding reduces both acute and chronic diseases - including asthma, diabetes, and childhood obesity - and also aids health and healing following childbirth. It is a low-cost and preventive practice with far-reaching benefits for both mothers and babies.

California has led the nation with strong breastfeeding laws that provide for breastfeeding in public and hospital infant feeding policies. Additionally, California is a champion in supporting employees' right to breastfeed while employed through workplace lactation programs.

Los Angeles County is the Southern California region's largest employer and is a leader in lactation policies and programs. In celebration of World Breastfeeding Week and Breastfeeding Awareness Month, the County should continue to educate new parents of their rights and support their intent to breastfeed.

-MORE-

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Proclaim the week of August 1 to 7, 2018 as “World Breastfeeding Week” and the Month of August 2018 as “Breastfeeding Awareness Month” in Los Angeles County; and
- 2) Encourage all departments to support the County’s designation of a Mother-Baby Friendly Workplace by championing effective lactation spaces for all employees.

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JH:dg