



2017 Malnutrition Resolution

A resolution commending the benefits of routine nutrition screening and therapeutic nutritional intervention, and recognizing the week of September 18 - September 22, 2017 as "Malnutrition Awareness Week™" in the state of

WHEREAS, Leading health and nutrition experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of patient health and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of institutionalized healthcare facilities, thus reducing healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, Inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is particularly prevalent in vulnerable populations, such as older adults, hospitalized patients, or minority populations, and those populations statistically shoulder the highest incidences of the most severe chronic illnesses such as diabetes, kidney disease, and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, Illness, injury, and malnutrition can result in the loss of lean body mass, leading to complications that impact good patient health outcomes, including recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; the elderly lose lean body mass more quickly and to a greater extent than younger adults and weight assessment (body weight and body mass index) can overlook accurate indicators of lean body mass; and

WHEREAS, The American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN) defines malnutrition in adults as a condition in which adult patients lack the adequate calories, protein, or other nutrients needed for tissue maintenance and repair (undernutrition), and defines pediatric malnutrition (undernutrition) as an imbalance in infants and children between nutrient requirement and intake, resulting in cumulative deficits of energy, protein, or micronutrients that may negatively affect growth, development, and other relevant outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Therapeutic nutrition is defined as the administration of food and fluids to support the metabolic processes of a patient who is malnourished or at high risk of becoming malnourished; and

WHEREAS, Despite the recognized link between good nutrition and good health, nutrition screening and therapeutic nutrition treatment have not been incorporated as routine medical treatments across the spectrum of healthcare; and

WHEREAS, The _____ and other state and local nutrition organizations support access to therapeutic nutrition as being essential to restoring lean body mass, resolving malnutrition challenges, improving clinical outcomes, reducing healthcare costs, and promoting good health; and

WHEREAS, ASPEN in first establishing a national Malnutrition Awareness Week™ in 2012, recognized that an important step toward treating malnutrition is raising awareness about it.

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it Resolved by the _____ of the State of _____ :

That September 18-22, 2017 is recognized as "Malnutrition Awareness Week™" in _____.