WHEREAS, experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of health, and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of health care institutions; and

WHEREAS, inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, known as malnutrition, is prevalent in many groups, including vulnerable populations such as hospitalized patients and minority populations, with older adults having the highest rate of malnutrition compared to other groups; and

WHEREAS, malnutrition is exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has intensified disparities, inequities and social isolation, and is further compounded by food insecurity; 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; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim September 19-23, 2022 as

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereeto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of State. Done at the City of Indianapolis, this 12th day of September the year of our Lord 2022 and of the Independence of the United States 247.

By the Governor: Eric Holcomb