

Office of the Governor



JOHN BEL EDWARDS

PROCLAMATION

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, nutrition is a human right and social determinant of health, and malnutrition is exacerbated by the global COVID-19 health pandemic, which has intensified disparities, inequities and social isolation and is further compounded by food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times higher hospital costs compared to the average cost of all hospital stays; and

WHEREAS, twenty to thirty percent of adults in the community are at risk or have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnutrition leads to more complications, falls and readmissions, and plays a role in cognitive deterioration, decreased functional capacity and affects quality of life; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis and intervention are key to improving malnutrition in the Louisiana and the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim September 17 - 24, 2022 as

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK
in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 17th day of September A. D., 2022.



Handwritten signature of John Bel Edwards in black ink.

John Bel Edwards
Governor