

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, May has been nationally recognized as Digestive Disease Awareness Month to bring awareness to the millions of Americans suffering from digestive disease; and,

WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of Health, gastrointestinal diseases adversely affect an estimated 60-70 million Americans each year, accounting for health care expenditures totaling more than \$138 billion; and,

WHEREAS, the Digestive Health Foundation of Chicago addresses this far-reaching problem by raising funds to support cutting-edge medical research, physician training, and education at the Northwestern Medicine Digestive Health Center; and,

WHEREAS, the important discoveries made by the physician-scientists at Northwestern Medicine's Digestive Health Center help prevent, treat, and ultimately cure a spectrum of digestive disorders including colon, pancreatic, and esophageal cancers, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, celiac disease, swallowing disorders, hepatitis, and other liver diseases; and,

WHEREAS, in the past nine years, the Digestive Health Foundation has funded 89 groundbreaking research studies that are changing the future of digestive health, providing hope to patients and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the Digestive Health Foundation is holding its annual Gala on May 11, 2024, to continue its mission to fund vital medical research to transform digestive disease into digestive health;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as **Digestive Health Awareness Month** in Illinois and recognize the Digestive Health Foundation for its efforts to positively change the landscape of digestive health.*

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 THIRTIETH day of APRIL, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-FOUR, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIFTH.*



Alexi Giannoulis
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR