

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life as a critical factor to early brain growth, development of the central nervous system, and lifelong mental health; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition published a field-leading consensus paper defining pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) as impaired oral intake that is not age-appropriate and is associated with medical, nutritional, feeding skill, and/or psychosocial dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, according to a national prevalence study published in the Journal of Pediatrics, conservative evaluations estimate that more than 1 in 37 children under the age of 5 and more than 1 in 5 children with a chronic disease experience severe PFD in the United States annually; and

WHEREAS, every bite of food for children with PFD can be painful, scary, or simply impossible to swallow, potentially impeding nutrition, development, growth, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, families navigating pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) often feel isolated and overwhelmed, struggling to overcome the medical, emotional, financial, educational, and social issues related to PFD; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness for pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) will help create a world in which children with PFD will thrive by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care and support for children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as

PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-eighth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Seventh.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE