

National Infant Immunization Week Sample Proclamation

Whereas: Vaccines are among the 20th Century's most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death.

Whereas: National immunization levels are at or near record highs for most vaccines and most vaccine-preventable diseases have been reduced by 99 percent or more since the introduction of vaccines.

Whereas: Children need a series of vaccinations, starting at birth, to be fully protected against 12 potentially serious diseases.

Whereas: Immunizations are one of the most important ways parents can protect their children against serious diseases.

Whereas: National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) focuses local and national attention on the importance of proper immunization for infants and toddlers 24 months and under.

Whereas: In the ten years since its inception, National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) has served as a call to parents, caregivers, and healthcare providers to participate in activities and recognition events to increase the awareness of immunizing children before their second birthday.

Whereas: This year, during NIIW, the United States will be joining with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the US/Mexico Border Health Commission in support of Vaccination Week in the Americas to promote immunization in all countries of the Americas.

Whereas: The week of April 24- May 1, 2004 has been declared National Infant Immunization Week to help ensure that children have all their vaccinations by the age of two.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (Governor/Mayor) of (state/city) _____, do hereby proclaim the week of April 25- May 1, 2004, as INFANT IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS WEEK IN (state/city/county) and encourage businesses, government agencies, national organizations, community-based organizations, and service groups to spread the immunization message throughout their communities. I also encourage public and private health care providers, parents, and children's caregivers in this (city/county/state) to advance the health of children by ensuring early and on-time immunization against preventable childhood diseases.

DATED: Signed by (Governor/Mayor) _____