WHEREAS, diaper need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of babies, toddlers, and their families; and

WHEREAS, national surveys and research studies report that one in three families struggles with diaper need and 48 percent of families delaying a diaper change to extend their supply. Additionally, children go through six to 12 diapers each day during the two to three years they wear diapers; and

WHEREAS, purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume 14 percent of a low-wage family’s post-tax income, making it difficult to obtain a sufficient supply. This can present a barrier to services as a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in child care programs and quality early-education programs; and

WHEREAS, without enough diapers, babies and toddlers risk infections and health problems that may require medical attention, and may prevent parents from attending work or school, thereby hurting the family’s economic prospects and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the people of Colorado recognize that addressing diaper need can lead to economic opportunity for the state’s families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is proud to be home to trusted community-based organizations that recognize the importance of diapers in ensuring health and providing economic stability for families and thus distribute diapers free of charge to families through various channels.

Therefore, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period between September 23, 2019 and September 29, 2019 as

DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-third day of September 2019

Jared Polis
Governor