



In the Name and by the Authority of
THE STATE OF
OHIO



WHEREAS, Health Centers are on the front lines of emerging health care crises, providing access to care for our nation's veterans, addressing the opioid epidemic, and responding to public health threats in the wake of natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, what began as a small demonstration project in two states has grown into the country's largest primary care network, with health centers now serving as the health care home for over 32 million Americans through more than 16,000 delivery sites across the nation, and one in every fifteen people living in the United States depends on their services; and

WHEREAS, health centers provide high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary and preventive care, including integrated medical, oral, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to all individuals regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, health centers are located in medically underserved areas and locally controlled by patient-majority boards, making each health center responsive to the needs of the specific community it serves; and

WHEREAS, the health center model continues to prove as an effective means of reducing healthcare disparities and overcoming barriers to access including geography, income and insurance status, and in doing so, improves health care outcomes and reduces health care system costs; and

WHEREAS, Health Centers are locally owned and operated small businesses that serve as critical economic engines, helping to power local economies by generating \$118 billion in economic impact in some of the country's most economically deprived communities; and

WHEREAS, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America's health centers, their dedicated staff, board members, and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of the program since its creation over 50 years ago;

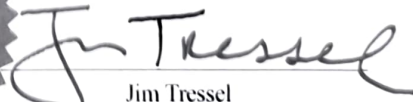
NOW, THEREFORE, We, **Mike DeWine and Jim Tressel**, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize August 2-8, 2026 as

NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

on this 2nd day of August 2026.



Mike DeWine
Governor



Jim Tressel
Lieutenant Governor