



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, childhood immunizations protect children from deadly diseases and save health care costs; and

WHEREAS, immunizations are one of the most cost-effective health care interventions that have led to all-time low rates of vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly compared to the epidemics in the past for such diseases as polio, diphtheria, measles and others; and

WHEREAS, childhood immunization coverage rates in New Mexico are still slightly below the national average and too many children lack timely immunizations; and

WHEREAS, children need a series of vaccinations, starting at birth, to be fully protected from these deadly and debilitating diseases; and

WHEREAS, too many children in New Mexico are still not immunized on-time and have "missed opportunities" to become fully immunized; and

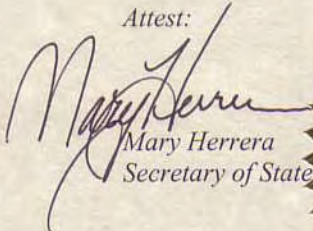
WHEREAS, there is a need to educate parents and caregivers about the importance of early immunizations and to encourage health care providers to improve access and consistency of immunization services;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim April, 2010 as:

"Immunization Month"

throughout the State of New Mexico, and I encourage public and private health care providers, parents, and children's caregivers in New Mexico to advance the health of children by ensuring early and on-time immunization against preventable childhood diseases. Further, I encourage businesses, government agencies, statewide and local coalitions, health care provider organizations, and service groups to spread the immunization message throughout their communities about the importance of proper immunizations before the age of two.


Attest:


Mary Herrera
Secretary of State



Done at the Executive Office this
1st day of March, 2010.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the Great State of New Mexico


Bill Richardson
Governor