

## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS.

Louisiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide a tremendous asset to the state's healthcare system by providing low cost, quality health care services to the citizens of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS,

Louisiana's FQHCs provide medical, oral and behavioral health services to more than 471,000 individual patients annually, many of whom live in medically underserved and/or rural areas of our state; and

WHEREAS,

Louisiana's FQHCs provide the state with \$896 million dollars in annual cost savings by emphasizing preventative care and keeping patients out of the emergency room; and

WHEREAS.

Louisiana's FQHCs directly generated over 8,203 total jobs, contributing to an annual economic impact of over \$182.9 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS,

Louisiana's FQHCs, along with the Louisiana Primary Care Association, stand ready to work even more closely with the state in continuing to provide the highest quality of care to our state's citizens in Louisiana's most medically underserved areas; and

WHEREAS.

Louisiana's participation in National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to cherish and celebrate the fantastic work done by Louisiana's FQHCs and recognize the important role they play as health innovators in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**I, John Bel Edwards,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim August 6 - 12, 2023 as

FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS WEEK in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this **6th** day of **August** A. D., **2023**.

John Bel Edwards Governor