



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately half a million *C. difficile* infections occur per year that require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized; and

WHEREAS, approximately 29,000 patients die within thirty days of the initial diagnosis of *C. difficile* of with about 15,000 deaths estimated to be directly attributable to *C. diff* infection; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that *C. difficile* has become the most common microbial cause of healthcare-associated infections in United States hospitals and costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities alone; and

WHEREAS, 1 out of every 5 patients with a healthcare-associated *C. difficile* infection experience a recurrence of the infection, and 1 out of every 9 patients aged 65 or older with a healthcare-associated *C. difficile* infection died within 30 days of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who advocate for improving health and promoting patient and staff safety in order to minimize and prevent *C. difficile*; and

WHEREAS, improved health practices, such as thorough hand hygiene and environmental cleaning can significantly reduce the risk and spread of *C difficile* infections; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the education of healthcare workers on proper infection prevention techniques is proven to reduce all types of healthcare associated infections; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all Missourians is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our families and communities;

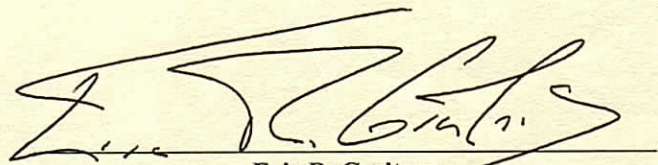
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric R. Greitens, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim November 2017 to be

C. DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 2nd day of October, 2017.




Eric R. Greitens
Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State