



**Proclamation No. 22-0496  
TO MODERNIZE BLOOD DONATION POLICIES**

**WHEREAS**, The nation’s leading blood donation organizations, including the Red Cross, recently declared a national blood supply crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. is experiencing its worst blood shortfall in more than a decade; and

**WHEREAS**, The Food and Drug Administration has updated its policies in recent years but discriminatory deferral policies that categorically restrict donations from men who have sex with men remain in place; and

**WHEREAS**, Many of us have loved ones who have benefitted from blood donations; and

**WHEREAS**, Some of us have ourselves received life-saving blood products; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet recently called on the FDA to modernize its deferral policies to align with the most updated science; and

**WHEREAS**, Children’s Hospital Colorado is one of many organizations working to address the current blood shortage; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilman Chris Herndon, in partnership with Central Park United Neighbors and Children’s Hospital Colorado, is hosting a community blood drive on Friday, May 6.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver supports Senator Michael Bennet in asking the FDA to modernize blood donation policies so more of our family members, friends, and neighbors can receive the care they need.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to Central Park United Neighbors, Children’s Hospital Colorado, and Senator Michael Bennet’s Office.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL May 2, 2022

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM