

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Governor Pillen: April Is Financial Awareness Month

LINCOLN, Neb. – Gov. Jim Pillen has declared April as Financial Awareness Month in Nebraska.

During a March 25 ceremony at the State Capitol, the governor signed a proclamation to spotlight the importance of financial awareness and how it affects all Nebraskans. In attendance were approximately 80 school children who participate in Nebraska’s in-school savings program, which is being implemented by [more than 70 schools](#) statewide.

Coordinated by the Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance ([NDBF](#)) and Nebraska Council on Economic Education ([NCEE](#)), Financial Awareness Month spotlights activities in schools, workplaces, and communities to enhance the knowledge of money-related topics. Throughout April, the NDBF and NCEE will distribute financial awareness information and updates via social media and traditional media outlets.

During the proclamation ceremony at the Capitol, Tanner Ellis of Ravenna Public Schools was recognized as the 2025 economic educator of the year. Gov. Pillen honored Ellis by making him an admiral in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska – the state’s highest civic award.

Later in the day, Nebraska’s bestselling children’s author Julia Cook spent time with the students who participated in the proclamation ceremony. Cook’s “I Am Money” is an acclaimed book that teaches grade-school students the fundamental principles of financial literacy. A hardback copy of “I Am Money” has been mailed to each of Nebraska’s 680 elementary school libraries.

As part of its Financial Awareness Month activities, the NDBF will soon officially unveil its “Make Cents Make Sense” initiative. According to NDBF Director Kelly Lammers, the consumer-focused program will provide trusted, unbiased, and no-cost guidance to Nebraskans to help them plan their financial journeys while guarding against fraud and scams.

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