

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, manufacturing in Illinois has been the historical bedrock of the state's economy for nearly two centuries; and,*

*WHEREAS, nearly 19,544 manufacturing firms call Illinois home and provide employment for more than 578,187 workers; and,*

*WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Commerce, the average yearly salary for manufacturing in America exceeds \$68,744; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois manufacturers face a graying of the workforce, as more than 25,000 "Baby-Boom" era workers will retire each and every year between now and 2027; and,*

*WHEREAS, a strategic approach to creating high quality, skilled workers available to replace retiring workers does not exist everywhere in Illinois; and,*

*WHEREAS, modern advanced manufacturing relies on clean, well-lit and climate controlled environments; provides competitive benefits to every employee including healthcare and retirement plans; and thereby makes manufacturing a worthwhile career choice for all Illinoisan; and,*

*WHEREAS, specific public events designed to expand general knowledge about the innumerable contributions manufacturing makes to our common good would bring significant change to the public perception of manufacturing in our state;*

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as MANUFACTURING MONTH in Illinois, to encourage local collaborative efforts be designed to expand knowledge about and improve general public perception of manufacturing careers and manufacturing's value to the Illinois economy, and urge all school districts, community colleges, and manufacturers in Illinois to invest time and resources to celebrate the contributions manufacturers make to the fabric of our state's communities and assure continued success of local events highlighting Manufacturing Month in Illinois.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Deese White*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*

*this TWENTY-FIRST day of SEPTEMBER, in*

*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*

*SIXTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,*

*one hundred and NINETY-EIGHTH.*

*Bruce Rauner*

GOVERNOR