STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *since its initiation by Congress in 1994, the King Day of Service has created a nationwide effort to transform the federal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. into a day of community service, grounded in Dr. King's teachings, that helps solve social problems; and*

WHEREAS, *each year hundreds of thousands of volunteers in cities and towns across the nation participate in thousands of King Day service projects in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. In 2009, more than one million Americans served in 13,000 projects nationwide; and*

WHEREAS, *the Corporation for National and Community Service, in collaboration with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, honors Dr. King's vision in recognizing the power of service to strengthen communities and achieve common goals every year on the third Monday in January; and*

WHEREAS, *in cooperation with President Obama's national call to service and the recent passage of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, the King Day of Service, which falls on January 18 this year, is an opportune time for the people of Illinois to recognize Dr. King's teachings on advancing equality and opportunity for all by contributing their own time and talents in a day of service; and*

WHEREAS, *on this day, the Serve Illinois Commission and the state's AmeriCorps programs and the LeaderCorps representatives have collaborated to organize statewide service day events in celebration of the King Day of Service;*

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2010 as ***MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE*** *in Illinois, and urge all citizens to honor the memory of Dr. King and put his teachings into action by finding ways to give back to their communities.*

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

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield, this ELEVENTH *day of* JANUARY*, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and* TEN*, and of the State of Illinois the one hundred and* NINETY-SECOND

Jesse White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR