



WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and throughout our history citizens have stepped up to meet our challenges by volunteering in their communities; and,

WHEREAS, our communities need volunteering more than ever; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is blessed with men and women who selflessly dedicate their time and energy to performing acts of good will and improving the quality of life for all people; and,

WHEREAS, last year, nearly 2.51 million Illinoisans gave back over 274.1 million hours to their communities; which led to over \$6.8 billion dollars in impact; and,

WHEREAS, more than 900,000 men and women across the nation, including more than 35,000 from Illinois, have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to "get things done for America" by becoming AmeriCorps Members since 1994; and,

WHEREAS, more than 12,000 Illinois seniors volunteer through Senior Corps; and,

WHEREAS, in Illinois, the Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service strives to improve our communities by supporting volunteer and community service efforts throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, in 1974, President Nixon established National Volunteer Week for the celebration of volunteers; and,

WHEREAS, President Obama has reaffirmed that April 10 through April 16 be known across the nation as National Volunteer Week; and,

WHEREAS, during National Volunteer Week, service projects and special events will take place throughout Illinois and across the national; and,

WHEREAS, the annual observance of National Volunteer Week sets aside an entire week dedicated to serving others in need and honor those who volunteer all year;

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 10-16, 2016 as **National Volunteer Week** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to promote the spirit of volunteerism in our families and communities across the state. To find a volunteer opportunity or to learn more about how to recognize your volunteers, visit the Serve Illinois Commission website at www.Serve.Illinois.gov or call 800-592-9896.

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 _____ NINETEENTH day of _____ APRIL
in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
_____, SIXTEEN
and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and _____ NINETY-EIGHTH _____.

Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR