

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 15,000 people of all ages and backgrounds are serving in more than 1,600 national and local nonprofits, schools, faith-based organizations, and other groups across Illinois through national service programs; and,

WHEREAS, National Service Members serve their communities by improving education, protecting public safety, promoting healthy living, ensuring economic opportunity, safeguarding the environment, providing disaster relief, and promoting civic engagement; and,

WHEREAS, more 2,400 AmeriCorps*State and National, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and AmeriCorps*NCCC Members serving in Illinois will take their pledge and promise to carry this commitment to service throughout their lives; and,

WHEREAS, since 1994, more than 41,000 Illinoisans have served more than 59 million hours through AmeriCorps, which equals \$1.5 billion in impact; and,

WHEREAS, more than 12,600 Senior Corps Members are currently contributing their lifetime of experience and talents through the Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion, and Retired and Senior Volunteer (RSVP) programs; and,

WHEREAS, the Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service is charged with enhancing and supporting community volunteerism in all its forms and in the administration of the AmeriCorps*State program in Illinois;

THEREFORE, I Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 17, 2018, as **NATIONAL SERVICE OPENING DAY** in Illinois to acknowledge Illinoisan families of national service volunteers on their commitment to strengthen communities through volunteerism, and I call on other citizens to volunteer in either AmeriCorps or Senior Corps by visiting www.Serve.Illinois.gov.

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 TWENTY-SIXTH day of SEPTEMBER, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.



Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR