



WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and throughout our history citizens have stepped up to meet challenges by volunteering in their communities; 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, in 2017, nearly 2.43 million Illinoisans gave back more than 286.6 million hours to their communities, which led to more than \$7.3 billion in impact; and,

WHEREAS, more than one million men and women across the nation, including more than 39,000 from Illinois, have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to "get things done for America" by becoming AmeriCorps Members since 1994; and,

WHEREAS, more than 13,000 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, the annual observance of National Volunteer Week sets aside an entire week dedicated to serving others in need and honoring those who volunteer all year; and,

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

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 15-21, 2018, 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 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.



Dorise Witt
SECRETARY OF STATE

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this ELEVENTH day of APRIL, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR