



WHEREAS, domestic violence is a prevalent social problem that not only harms the victim, but also negatively impacts a victim's family, friends and community at large; and,

WHEREAS, domestic violence knows no boundaries; it exists in all neighborhoods and cities, and affects people of all ages, genders, racial, ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds; and,

WHEREAS, one in four women will experience domestic violence sometime in her life, and in Illinois, there are approximately 115,000 to 125,000 domestic crimes each year; and,

WHEREAS, for many victims of domestic violence, abuse experienced at home often follows them to the workplace, where they are harassed by threatening phone calls and emails; and,

WHEREAS, the health-related costs of rape, physical assault, stalking and homicide by intimate partners amount to nearly \$6 billion every year, and the annual cost of lost productivity in the workplace due to domestic violence is estimated to be hundreds of millions of dollars, with nearly 8 million paid workdays lost per year; and,

WHEREAS, through the month of October, the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its 52 member organizations will hold numerous events across the state in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, including walk/runs, Silent Witness events, candlelight vigils and marches;

THEREFORE, I Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH in the State of Illinois.

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-NINTH *day of* SEPTEMBER, *in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
FIFTEEN, *and of the State of Illinois,*
one hundred and NINETY-SEVENTH.

Deese White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner

GOVERNOR