

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Public Health seeks to promote the health of the people of Illinois through the prevention and control of disease and injury; and,*

*WHEREAS, antibiotics are lifesaving when used correctly for bacterial infections, but can cause individuals unnecessary and significant harm when used incorrectly; and,*

*WHEREAS, antibiotics become less effective for everyone as bacteria become resistant to them; and,*

*WHEREAS, up to 50 percent of antibiotics prescribed nationwide are unnecessary or not optimally effective; and,*

*WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance is a public health crisis, causing more than 2 million illnesses and at least 23,000 deaths in the United States each year; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois has high rates of outpatient antibiotic use, with 853 antibiotic prescriptions per 1000 people; and,*

*WHEREAS, antibiotic treatment is the primary risk factor for infection with Clostridium difficile, an infection commonly known as "deadly diarrhea", which is designated as an urgent threat to our nation's health by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and,*

*WHEREAS, there were more than 15,000 cases of Clostridium difficile infections in Illinois hospitals reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network in 2015; and,*

*WHEREAS, coordinated efforts to improve antibiotic prescribing are essential to fight antibiotic resistance; and,*

*WHEREAS, working in partnership, the Illinois Department of Public Health, local organizations, and stakeholders seek to raise awareness and educate health care workers and the general public about the appropriate use of antibiotics;*

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 14-20, 2016, as **GET SMART ABOUT ANTIBIOTICS WEEK** in Illinois, and encourage all Illinoisans to educate themselves, their families, and their communities about best practices regarding the appropriate use of antibiotics.*

*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*  
SIXTEEN *, and of the State of Illinois,*  
*one hundred and* NINETY-EIGHTH *.*



*Deese Witt*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Bruce Rauner*

GOVERNOR