

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Illinois' world-class research institutions, entrepreneurship community, and strong technology talent pool provide opportunities to increase business competitiveness and create new products, companies, and jobs; and

WHEREAS, Illinois is positioned to be a national and global leader in industries vital to the state's economy – including manufacturing, healthcare, information technology and computing, energy, and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, technology incubation efforts stemming from the state's universities and network of incubators, accelerators and co-working spaces turn ideas into commercialized technologies by connecting innovators with space, training, mentorship, networking, capital, and customer feedback; and

WHEREAS, integrating technology and talent pipelines with private sector needs will drive industry growth and strengthen retention of people, ideas and R&D within our borders; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' diverse economy is a key differentiator from other top innovative states and will help spur the continued development of cluster strategies and strategic integration of business, research, entrepreneurship, and workforce activities around key sectors across Illinois' dynamic regions; and

WHEREAS, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiatives that build interest in high-skilled, high-wage technology careers, generate more diversity and inclusion, and help our talent pipeline develop industry-relevant skills are key priorities for regional economic development, educational, and private sector institutions; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, April 12, 2019, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology, Illinois Science & Technology Coalition, Clean Energy Trust, Illinois Manufacturers Association, Illinois Technology Association, Illinois Biotechnology Industry Organization, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, and Illinois Venture Capital Association have convened innovation leaders from across the state to identify opportunities to catalyze regional prosperity through innovation.

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 12, 2019 as **ILLINOIS INNOVATION DAY** in Illinois, and encourage everyone in the Land of Lincoln to recognize the important role that innovation plays in creating new businesses and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of established firms across the state from Rockford to Carbondale.

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 ELEVENTH *day of* APRIL, *in*

the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and

NINETEEN, *and of the State of Illinois,*

two hundred and FIRST.



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SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker

GOVERNOR