



WHEREAS, manufacturing in Illinois has been the historical bedrock of the state's economy for nearly two centuries; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 19,544 manufacturing firms call Illinois home and provide employment for more than 578,187 workers; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois manufacturers face a graying of the workforce, as more than 25,000 "Baby-Boom" era workers will retire each and every year between now and 2027; and,

WHEREAS, a strategic approach to creating high quality, skilled workers available to replace retiring workers does not exist everywhere in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, modern advanced manufacturing relies on clean, well-lit, and climate controlled environments; provides competitive benefits to every employee including healthcare and retirement plans; and thereby makes manufacturing a worthwhile career choice for all Illinoisans; and,

WHEREAS, specific public events designed to expand general knowledge about the innumerable contributions manufacturing makes to our common good would bring significant change to the public perception of manufacturing in our state;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2018 as **MANUFACTURING MONTH** in Illinois to encourage local collaborative efforts be designed to expand knowledge about and improve general public perception of manufacturing careers and manufacturing's value to the Illinois economy, and urge all school districts, community colleges, and manufacturers in Illinois to invest time and resources to celebrate the contributions manufacturers make to the fabric of our state's communities and assure continued success of local events highlighting Manufacturing Month in 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 FIFTH *day of* JULY *, 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