

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, April 11, 2016, marks the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the U.S. Fair Housing Act, which created a national fair housing policy to ban discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability; and,

**WHEREAS**, this year also marks the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Illinois Human Rights Act, which bars discrimination in housing based on race; color; religion; national origin; sex, including sexual harassment; pregnancy; physical or mental disability; familial status; age; ancestry; marital status; disability; military status; unfavorable discharge from military service; sexual orientation, including gender-related identity; or order of protection status; and,

**WHEREAS**, acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are repugnant to a common sense of decency and fairness; and,

**WHEREAS**, decent, safe and affordable housing is part of the American dream; and,

**WHEREAS**, economic stability, community health and human relations are improved by diversity and integration; and,

**WHEREAS**, stable, integrated, and balanced residential patterns are threatened by discriminatory acts and unlawful housing practices that result in segregation of residents and opportunities in Illinois communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the talents of grassroots and non-profit organizations, housing service providers, housing professionals, financial institutions, elected officials, state agencies, and others must be combined to promote and preserve integration, fair housing, and shared opportunity in every community, and to address the immense challenge of ensuring that every person in Illinois has access to affordable housing;

**THEREFORE**, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in Illinois in commemoration of the signing of the U.S. Fair Housing Act and the Illinois Human Rights Act, and I urge all Illinois residents to embrace diversity, recognize the importance of equal opportunity in housing, and recognize the important work of equal housing advocates.

**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 EIGHTH day of APRIL, in  
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and  
SIXTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,  
NINETY-EIGHTH  
one hundred and \_\_\_\_\_.



*Deese White*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Bruce Rauner*  
GOVERNOR