



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Thanksgiving Day**

**WHEREAS**, Thanksgiving, a proud American tradition, is a time to reflect on all our many blessings, and to give back to our families, friends and neighbors in the name of peace and fellowship; and

**WHEREAS**, at a time when we are all pulled in different directions by the demands of our time - our jobs, our families, our 24-7 culture - may we all find a moment for quiet reflection; and

**WHEREAS** we must be mindful to share our blessings with our neighbors facing great uncertainty on when and where their next healthy meal will come from; and

**WHEREAS** given all the unrest throughout the world, where people are displaced from their homes, and separated from their loved ones, may we appreciate our freedom and take time to thank the brave men and women who defend these freedoms; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 1, 1777, the first Thanksgiving was established by resolution of the Continental Congress, where they called on setting apart a day for "solemn thanksgiving and praise"; and

**WHEREAS**, in the State of Rhode Island Governor William Greene was the first to officially proclaim Thanksgiving in 1778; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim November 26 2015 as: ***Thanksgiving Day*** in the state and encourage all residents to live in peace, share their blessings and show tolerance, compassion and understanding to those in need.

Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015



**Gina M. Raimondo**  
Governor

**Nellie M. Gorbea**  
Secretary of State