



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Thanksgiving Day

WHEREAS, Thanksgiving, a beloved American tradition, provides an opportunity to reflect on our blessings, acknowledge the value of those around us and give back to our families, friends and communities; and

WHEREAS, we are driven by the founding principles our great state was built upon and embrace the diversity which strengthens our communities; and

WHEREAS, we work together to eliminate fear and hatred to promote community and togetherness; and

WHEREAS, we cherish our communities where people open their doors and hearts to every person, no matter their religion, no matter who they love and no matter where they are from; and

WHEREAS, we strive to expand opportunity so that every Rhode Islander has the skills and training they need to compete for good paying jobs, and we invest in tomorrow's Rhode Islanders to ensure that no matter their zip code, every Rhode Island student has the same opportunity to reach for their dreams; and

WHEREAS, we foster equality and equal opportunity for all citizens of our state; and

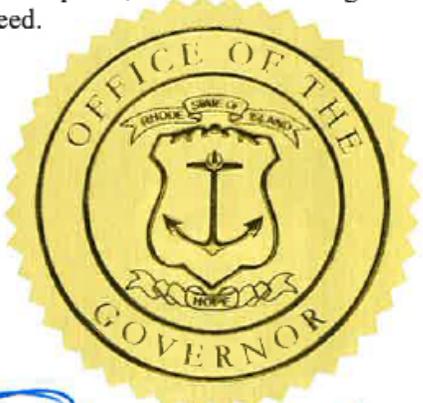
WHEREAS, we remember the importance and value of the environment around us and seek to protect it from degradation; and

WHEREAS, we are deeply grateful for the work of our public servants, veterans, and men and women in uniform who have bravely worked to keep our communities safe and improve the lives of all Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, we will continue to fight for our values and strive for a future that reflects equality, advocacy and a commitment to our shared humanity; 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";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2016 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.




Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great seal
of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 23 day of November, 2016



Gina M. Raimondo
Governor