State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Rhode Island Food Day

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island possesses a rich local food culture that supports and promotes the health and well-being of Rhode Island communities and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, sixty-two percent of Rhode Island adults are either overweight or obese, and only thirty percent of Rhode Island adults are consuming the recommended five servings of fruits and vegetables per day; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in seven Rhode Island households have difficulty providing enough food for their families; and

WHEREAS, promoting healthy diets and increasing access to fresh, safe, and affordable food is critical to improving residents' overall health and benefits low-income populations in particular; and

WHEREAS, supporting family farms and local agriculture benefits Rhode Island's economy, environment and quality of life, and is an integral and necessary component of a more locally based and sustainable food system; and

WHEREAS, strengthening our food system and increasing access to healthy and affordable food will take creativity, dedication, and collaboration among all Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Food Policy Council envisions a day when Rhode Island will be a national model because of the strength of its local food system and its success at achieving community food security; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2011 as Rhode Island Food Day in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.

Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 19th day of October, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State