



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, all citizens of Illinois should be made aware of the ever-present dangers posed by potentially poisonous household substances; and,

**WHEREAS**, children too often have access to over-the-counter and prescription medications and potentially toxic household products; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the past 51 years, the nation has observed National Poison Prevention Week to help prevent accidental poisonings and offer tips for promoting community involvement in poison prevention; and,

**WHEREAS**, as the oldest and one of the largest poison centers in the nation, the Illinois Poison Center has provided timely poison prevention and treatment services to the people of Illinois for more than 60 years; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Poison Center is a mainstay in the emergency medical care system of the State of Illinois and is recognized nationally for its contributions to poison treatment and prevention; and,

**WHEREAS**, 45 percent of the nearly 80,000 poisonings reported last year to the Illinois Poison Center involved children younger than the age of five, and could have been prevented; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Poison Center manages approximately 90 percent of cases from the general public at home, saving the State of Illinois more than \$52 million in reduced health care and lost productivity costs;

**THEREFORE**, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as **POISON PREVENTION MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to learn more about the Illinois Poison Center's prevention programs that alert citizens of the continuous problem of accidental poisonings and steps that can be taken to create healthy and safe home, play, and work environments.

**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 TWENTY-FOURTH day of JANUARY, in

the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and

EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,

two hundredth.



*Besse White*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Bruce Rauner*

GOVERNOR