



WHEREAS, direct support professionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, direct support professionals build close, respectful and trusted relationships with disabled individuals and assist them with intimate personal care; and,

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized support, including preparation of meals, help with medication, assistance with bathing and other aspects of daily living, help with transportation and assistance with general daily affairs; and,

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their family, friends and community; and,

WHEREAS, the services provided by direct support professionals help individuals live successful, meaningful lives in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the assistance of direct support professionals is critical to the welfare of the individuals they serve and to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long term support; and,

WHEREAS, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015, as **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECONITION WEEK** in Illinois to recognize the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals of all ages with disabilities.*

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 _____ TWENTIETH _____ day of _____ AUGUST _____, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
_____ FIFTEEN _____, and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and _____ NINETY-SEVENTH _____.

Deese White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner

GOVERNOR