

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, manufacturing has historically represented the largest single sector in the Illinois economy and contributes more than \$108 billion in economic output annually; and,

WHEREAS, more than 18,000 companies call Illinois home and provide employment for more than 550,000 of our family and neighbors; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois and communities around the World face the most unique challenges in more than a century with the presence of the Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, in response to the pandemic, nearly 1,000 manufacturers and distributors voluntarily came forward to provide the state of Illinois with critically indispensable protective supplies and equipment needed by frontline medical and public safety personnel; development of life-saving medicine and diagnostic tools; and with many who took extraordinary steps to ensure our food supply remained safe and plentiful, and our homes and businesses stayed safeguarded; and,

WHEREAS, the growing manufacturing industry with an array of careers offered allows anyone the opportunity to be an integral participant in rising to meet future challenges and create new and innovative products that move our state into the future; and,

WHEREAS, manufacturers continue to struggle to keep pace with filling more than 25,000 ongoing vacancies in production and engineering careers that represent high-quality, high-paying opportunities for every individual; and,

WHEREAS, this pandemic casts limitations on our annual celebration of manufacturing in our state and its great career opportunities, we nonetheless recognize with deep appreciation the vital role of manufacturing in every Illinois community and its ongoing contributions to our economy;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2020 as **MANUFACTURING MONTH IN ILLINOIS** and encourage local collaborative efforts be safely designed to expand knowledge about and improve general public perception of manufacturing careers and industry's overall value to Illinois and our economy; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Manufacturing Month is for students and their parents, educators, and all citizens to celebrate the contributions manufacturers make to the fabric of our state's communities and assure continued success of local events highlighting Manufacturing Month in Illinois.

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-EIGHTH *day of* SEPTEMBER, *in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY, *and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and SECOND.

Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR