



State of Rhode Island 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, while the COVID-19 pandemic prevents us from gathering with our loved ones, nothing can overcome the unbreakable spirit of Rhode Islanders; 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, while we give thanks for the opportunities we have been blessed with, we must also strive to expand those opportunities to every Rhode Islander by improving our schools and investing in our communities; and

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

WHEREAS, we cherish the vibrant local communities of Rhode Island, where people open their doors and hearts to every person, regardless of their background; and

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

WHEREAS, we are deeply grateful for the work of our public servants, veterans, healthcare professionals, and other frontline workers who have bravely worked to keep our communities safe and improve the lives of all Rhode Islanders this year; and

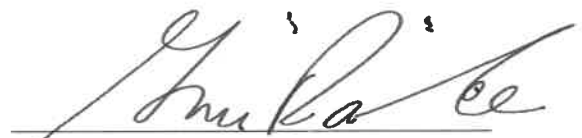
WHEREAS, we will continue to fight for our values and strive for a future that reflects equality, advocacy and a commitment to our shared humanity; and

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 26, 2020, 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.



Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island,
this 25th day of November, 2020.


Gina M. Raimondo
Governor


Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State