State of Connecticut

By Her Excellency **M. JODI RELL**, Governor: a

PROCLAMATION

September 11th is a solemn anniversary that reminds us all of the fragility of human life, but also of the strength and resiliency of the human spirit. The day serves as a somber occasion that will forever bring to mind images of destruction, despair and memories of those we lost in the attacks on our Nation. But equally powerful will always be the vivid memories of heroism, selflessness, and courage that formed common bonds among caring citizens everywhere. This day ultimately brought us closer as a people and strengthened the fabric of our nation.

As years pass and details fade, the heart of this occasion never loses its importance or impact. Events like this are first and foremost about people – the innocent people who lost their lives and those left behind to cope and heal. It is also about honoring the hopes and dreams of those who perished, supporting those who feel loss and educating those who indirectly share in the experience.

The most trying times in American history have allowed us to become a stronger, more united and cohesive nation. In the eight years since September 11, 2001, our Nation has grappled with the lessons of that day and conducted some important soul searching as freedom and hope have prevailed and will continue to do so. We have withstood pain and loss, but have also grown and nurtured each other and our Nation as a whole.

So let us use this anniversary as an opportunity to not only mourn and reflect, but to honor and grow. Although we all wish to avert tragedy, it may befall us just the same. When it does, let us be propelled to goodness in its wake. Let us never relinquish our basic commitment to one another in times of need, nor the ideals that our great Nation was built upon.

Therefore, in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 11, 2009, as a

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

and I ask that all citizens of this State appropriately observe the meaning of this day through their words, thoughts and actions.

Given under my hand and seal of the State at the Capitol, in Hartford, this first day of September, two thousand and nine and of the independence of the United States the two hundred thirty-third.

M. Jodi Rell

by Her Excellency's Command

Secretary of the State