

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, 1,598 Americans are still missing from the Vietnam War, as well as 7,704 unaccounted-for from the Korean War, 126 from the Cold War and 72,934 from WWII, though thousands from WWII are assessed as unrecoverable deep-sea losses; and,*

*WHEREAS, the families and friends of unaccounted-for Vietnam War Veterans, as well as countless fellow Veterans and other Americans, still await recovery and identification of their remains or, if determined unrecoverable, certainty regarding their fates; and,*

*WHEREAS, successive administrations have reinforced solid commitment to accounting for our Nation's POW/MIAs as a matter of highest national priority for the United States; and,*

*WHEREAS, in keeping with President Trump's pledge to support America's Veterans, we are confident the Trump Administration will end long-standing concerns over adequate funding and personnel; and,*

*WHEREAS, Vietnam and Laos are now cooperating well, yet US intelligence and other evidence indicate that increased unilateral and joint efforts would bring more rapid answers, despite Cambodia's recent intransigence; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China could readily provide much greater assistance in locating and providing documents and responding to questions about unaccounted-for Americans from all wars and conflict since WWII; and,*

*WHEREAS, in view of agreement between President Trump and DPRK Chairman Kim to meet there is reason for hope that the humanitarian mission of accounting for US personnel still unreturned from the Korean War will be suitably addressed;*

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois do hereby proclaim September 21, 2018, as POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY in Illinois in honor of our national heroes who made so many sacrifices for justice, freedom, and democracy and ask all citizens to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies.*

*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 \_\_\_\_\_ TENTH \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ SEPTEMBER \_\_\_\_\_, in  
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and  
\_\_\_\_\_ EIGHTEEN \_\_\_\_\_, and of the State of Illinois,  
two hundredth.*



*Deese White*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Bruce Rauner*

GOVERNOR