



WHEREAS, native wildlife populations are an integral part of Illinois' natural environment, and serve as an indicator for the overall health of Illinois' statewide ecosystems; and,

WHEREAS, each year in the United States, more than 200 people are killed in wildlife-vehicle collisions, 26,000 are injured and more than 1.5 million animals are hit on roads; and,

WHEREAS, the average cost of property damage from these collisions is approximately \$3,100 per incident, totaling over \$1 billion annually; and,

WHEREAS, when additional resources are factored in, such as law enforcement, emergency services, road maintenance crew, and wildlife management personnel, the estimated total cost to society associated with wildlife-vehicle collision is \$8.4 billion annually; and,

WHEREAS, wildlife watching is a popular outdoor recreational activity for tourists in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, the success of wildlife movement and survival in Illinois remains dependent upon continued public education and increased understanding of the essential role migration corridors play in wildlife movement; and,

WHEREAS, during the third week of September, Defenders of Wildlife and its more than 41,600 members in Illinois will work to raise awareness about the dangers of wildlife-vehicle collisions:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 18-24, 2011 as WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE AWARENESS WEEK in Illinois, and encourage all motorists to exercise caution when driving to reduce and prevent wildlife-vehicle collisions.

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 SEVENTEENTH day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
ELEVEN, and of the State of Illinois
the one hundred and NINETY-THIRD



Deer White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR