



SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

# Proclamation

Presented this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2018

*WHEREAS, since the Jain Center of Metropolitan Chicago was incorporated in 1970, it has grown as a place of worship for more than 1,900 Jain families from Illinois and neighboring states; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Jain Center of Metropolitan Chicago honors Bhagawan Shree Mahavir Swami as its main deity, consecrated on June 29, 1993, along with other deities consecrated thereafter; and,*

*WHEREAS, born in 599 BC, Shree Mahavir Swami was the 24th and last Jain Tirthankar who preached the principles of universal equality, compassion for all living beings, religious pluralism, and supreme non-violence "Ahimsä" above all; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Jain Center of Metropolitan Chicago continues to promote, teach, and cherish the Jain values of equality, compassion, pluralism, and ahimsä; and,*

*WHEREAS, as one of the largest such centers in North America and a global role-model, the Jain Center of Metropolitan Chicago has become a centerpiece for the Jain community, meeting its spiritual, cultural, social, and humanitarian aspirations;*

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois do hereby congratulate the JAIN CENTER OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO on the celebration of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration "Prana Prathishthä" of the temple "Deräsar" and recognize June 29, 2018, as AHIMSÄ DAY, or the day of supreme non-violence.*



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bruce Rauner'.

Bruce Rauner  
Governor, State of Illinois

