



WHEREAS, Illinois law prohibits the sale of tobacco products to persons under the age of 18; and,

WHEREAS, We Card Awareness Month is a retail education and training effort to boost Illinois retailers' awareness of and participation in responsible retailing efforts to comply with federal, state, and local laws, and to identify, prevent, and deny tobacco and other age-restricted product sales to minors; and,

WHEREAS, 2017 is the 22nd anniversary year of the national non-profit organization, The We Card Program, Inc., providing training and education to the retail community to help retailers comply with age-restricted product laws and serve their communities as responsible retailers; and,

WHEREAS, We Card in-store training and education materials, its online training program, and its mystery shopping service "ID Check-Up" are available to all Illinois retailers through We Card's website; and,

WHEREAS, We Card is endorsed by the Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers and Illinois will benefit from a responsible retailing community that successfully prevents tobacco and other age-restricted product sales to minors;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 2017 as **WE CARD AWARENESS MONTH** and encourage all Illinois retailers to participate in "We Card Awareness Month" activities and to let their customers know that "In Illinois, we don't sell tobacco and other age-restricted products to kids!"*

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 FOURTEENTH day of AUGUST, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
SEVENTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and NINETY-NINTH.*



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SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner

GOVERNOR