

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Proclamation

WHEREAS, on March 7, 1872, the state of Illinois passed the Local Library Act permitting municipalities to create a locally tax-supported public library; and,

WHEREAS, under the law - every library and the reading room shall be forever free to the use of the inhabitants of the city; and,

WHEREAS, the act authorized cities, incorporated towns, and townships to maintain free public libraries and reading rooms for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of each city; and,

WHEREAS, on November 25, 1872, the Rock Island Public Library was the first public library to open its doors in the state of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, 150 years later, the Rock Island Public Library continues to thrive, providing numerous opportunities to everyone in the City of Rock Island; and,

WHEREAS, this same year is the sesquicentennial of public libraries in the State of Illinois;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 25, 2022, as **Public Libraries Day** in Illinois.*

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 SECOND day of NOVEMBER, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-TWO, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FOURTH.*



Deese Whitt
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR