

# STATE OF ILLINOIS



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, 98 crashes occurred at public highway-rail grade crossings, resulting in 32 personal injuries and 15 fatalities in the State of Illinois during 2020; and,*

*WHEREAS, 55 trespassing incidents occurred in the State of Illinois during 2020, resulting in the deaths of 28 pedestrians and the injuries of 27 others while trespassing on railroad property rights of way; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois ranks fourth in the nation in grade crossing fatalities and fourth in trespass fatalities for 2020; and,*

*WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad rights of way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway-rail grade crossing, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws will reduce the number of fatalities and injuries to Illinoisans; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police (ILACP), partnered with Metra Railroad and supported by the American Automobile Association, Illinois Commerce Commission, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Operation Lifesaver, Illinois State Police, Illinois Tollway Authority, Illinois Sheriff's Association, Illinois Secretary of State, Illinois Truck Enforcement Association, Illinois High School and College Driver's Education Association, Illinois Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee, DuPage Rail Safety Council, and local and railroad law enforcement, first responders and area railroad companies commit to partnering together in an effort to educate Illinois residents on all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable state laws, and to support Illinois Rail Safety Week; and,*

*WHEREAS, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Illinois Commerce Commission and the 150th anniversary of its predecessor, the Railroad and Warehouse Commission – starting the commitment to rail safety in Illinois that continues with programs and partnerships designed to reduce the number of railroad related incidents;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 20-26, 2021, as Illinois Rail Safety Week, and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of rail safety education.*

*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* SIXTEENTH *day of* SEPTEMBER, *in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
TWENTY-ONE, *and of the State of Illinois,*  
*two hundred and* THIRD.



*Deese White*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR