

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois and the Illinois Commerce Commission are concerned with the safety of the people in our state as well as the integrity of our underground utility infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, every few minutes, an underground utility line is unintentionally damaged by those who fail to request that underground utility lines be located and marked before digging, often causing service interruptions, personal injury, or even death, and affecting the environment; and,

WHEREAS, a call to the Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators, Inc. (JULIE), which serves the entire state outside of the city limits of Chicago, has nearly 100 employees, represents 1,970 members, and receives 1.6 million locate calls annually, provides excavators and underground utility owners with a one-step message-handling and delivery service committed to protecting our underground pipelines, cables, and wiring, as well as the health and safety of those working and living near underground utilities; and,

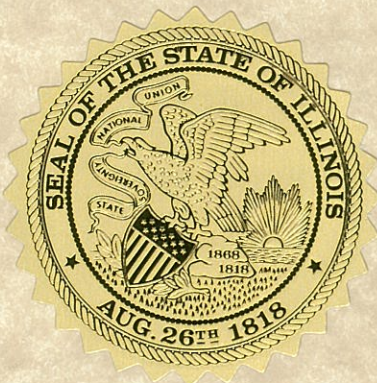
WHEREAS, Illinois law requires all homeowners and professional excavators to call JULIE at the state-wide number, 811, before digging to have the underground utility lines marked by its members at no cost, regardless of whether they are planting a sapling or excavating a significant construction project; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is a leader in the campaign to spread awareness of the one-call number, 811;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as **Safe Digging Month** in Illinois and encourage every excavator and homeowner to call 811 before digging.*

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
TWENTY-THREE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIFTH.



Alexi Giannoulis
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR