



# Proclamation

Presented this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2019

**WHEREAS**, Rural Partners is a member-driven, not-for-profit organization created in 1989 and formally incorporated within the State of Illinois in 1993 to connect individuals, businesses, organizations, and communities with public and private resources to maximize the potential of rural Illinois; and,

**WHEREAS**, Rural Partners is a nonpartisan organization open to all with member representation from federal, state and local government, the private sector, and non-profit groups to collaboratively advance the growth and economic vitality of rural communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, for 30 years, Rural Partners has successfully encouraged and created such public and private sector collaboration to empower and build the capacity of the state and its rural communities by designing flexible and innovative responses to local community and economic development initiatives; and,

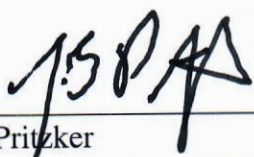
**WHEREAS**, Rural Partners has sponsored, supported, contributed to, and provided leadership to rural economic development conferences, rural life polls, community visioning programs, strategic planning, research, publication of technical assistance documents, and one-on-one guidance and support for a variety of community endeavors; and,

**WHEREAS**, Rural Partners acknowledges and thanks its dues-paying members and the generous time and participation of state and federal officials for enabling it to vigorously pursue its mission and support rural initiatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, because Rural Partners is an active and contributing member of Partners for Rural America and provides input on federal rural development legislation, policies and programs, the interests of rural Illinois residents are more effectively represented and the state of Illinois benefits by the knowledge Rural Partners continuously shares about successful rural initiatives occurring throughout the nation;

**THEREFORE**, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby recognize the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rural Partners as a leading community and economic development organization and acknowledge them as a valued contributor to Illinois' efforts to grow local economies, create jobs, and improve the quality of life for all residents.



  
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JB Pritzker  
Governor, State of Illinois

