

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, currently, there are approximately 1.5 million citizens in Illinois who are 65 years of age or older; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the number of citizens in Illinois who are 65 years of age or older will increase to 2.23 million by 2025; and,

WHEREAS, there are close to 600,000 deaths per year in Illinois caused by falls; and,

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among people age 65 and over; and,

WHEREAS, one out of every three people aged 65 and older fall each year, despite the fact that research shows most falls are preventable; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 1.5 million fragility fractures will occur this year that will result in approximately 20-30 percent of older adults who have a hip fracture dying within twelve months and an additional 25 percent of older adults who are in nursing homes dying within two years; and,

WHEREAS, the health care costs from fall injuries and fragility fractures are projected to be \$55 billion annually by 2020; and,

WHEREAS, identifying, educating, and treating individuals at risk for fragility fractures due to poor bone health can substantially reduce the long-term burden of osteoporosis, bone-related injuries and deaths; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Foundation for Education and Musculoskeletal Research is to promote musculoskeletal health and research, prevent fragility fractures, and increase awareness of osteoporosis and related bone trauma and disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, on the first day of autumn, September 22 of this year, the Foundation for Education and Musculoskeletal Research will coordinate public awareness and outreach activities to help prevent falls and the resulting fractures;

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2010 as **FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY** in Illinois, in order to raise awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among the older people of our state.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Osse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-THIRD day of JULY, in
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
TEN, and of the State of Illinois
the one hundred and NINETY-SECOND

Pat Quinn

GOVERNOR