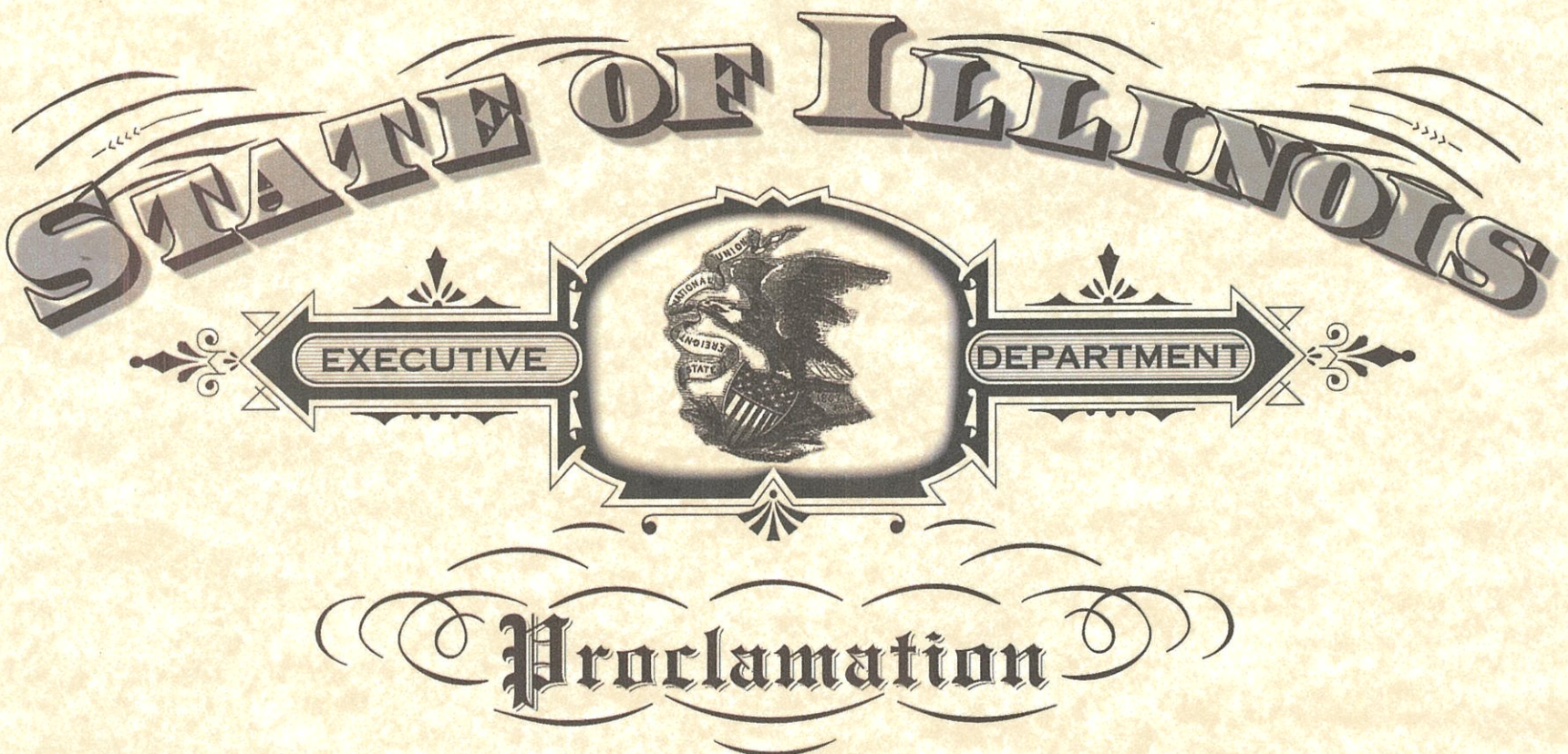




WHEREAS, Illinois has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and,

WHEREAS, hunting and angling continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and over recent years have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and both mental and physical health benefits; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat, and through their license fees and later self-imposed excise taxes on sporting goods, helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and,

WHEREAS, in the last year alone, Illinois' sportsmen and women generated \$67.5 million in support of the conservation efforts of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources; and,

WHEREAS, 867,485 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$26.3 billion spent on outdoor activities in Illinois last year; and,

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim September 26, 2026, as **National Hunting and Fishing 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 TWENTY-SIX day of SEPTEMBER, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-SIX, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and SEVENTH.

Alexi Giannoulis
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR