

STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) defines the Amateur Radio Service as a voluntary, noncommercial communication service, used by persons interested in radio technique as a hobby, and not for reasons of financial gain or broadcast; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 675,000 amateur radio operators in the United States, and more than 22,000 in the state of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators, also known as ham radio operators, use radio technology mostly as a form of personal enjoyment, however, amateur radio is also a vital asset in the field of emergency communications, and has been formally recognized by a number of national relief organizations; and

WHEREAS, during natural disasters, normal telephone and cell phone systems are disrupted, creating a need for amateur radio operators to step in and coordinate their communication efforts with disaster relief teams; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators have played a significant role in aiding relief workers in national emergencies, including the Oklahoma City Bombing in April 1995, the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and the tornadoes that ravaged Illinois communities in April 2004 and March 2006; and

WHEREAS, this year's Amateur Radio Field Days will take place on June 24 - 25, 2006;

THEREFORE, I, Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 2006 as **AMATEUR RADIO MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to recognize the services this state's amateur radio operators provide in keeping our communities safe.

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-FIFTH day of MAY, in
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
SIX, and of the State of Illinois
the one hundred and EIGHTY-EIGHTH*



Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Rod Blagojevich
GOVERNOR