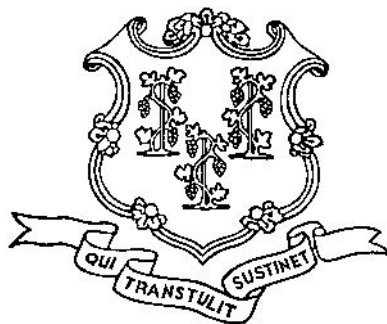


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, access to healthcare is a basic human need and a shared societal responsibility; and

*W*HEREAS, many citizens do not have ready access to healthcare, while others are unable to handle the financial hardships that come along with illness; and

*W*HEREAS, the experience of a serious diagnosis requires that patients have timely health care treatments and intervention, and the opportunity to make well-informed decisions; and

*W*HEREAS, it is important that the State of Connecticut remains committed to focusing on ensuring access to healthcare for those in need; and

*W*HEREAS, through continuous, comprehensive and collaborative action on the part of the state, private industry, healthcare providers, and citizens we will be able to surmount this challenge; and

*W*HEREAS, the State of Connecticut is dedicated to promoting effective, sound and fair healthcare for all its citizens, and I encourage all citizens of the State of Connecticut to support efforts to increase the availability of patient advocates now and in the future when healthcare challenges are likely to be even larger and more difficult; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim February 26, 2007, as

PATIENT ADVOCATE DAY
in the State of Connecticut.

