

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

- WHEREAS, Stevens Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis Syndrome, another form of SJS, are severe adverse drug reactions to medications; and
- WHEREAS, adverse drug reactions (ADR's) account for approximately 140,000 deaths per year in the United States alone, making drug reactions one of the leading causes of death in the U.S.; and
- WHEREAS, SJS is one of the most debilitating ADR's. Besides death, it can cause severe skin and oral lesions, permanent blindness, lung damage and other life-long complications; and
- WHEREAS, almost any medication, including over-the-counter drugs, can cause SJS, and although it afflicts people of all ages, a large number of its victims are children; and
- WHEREAS, symptoms of SJS include: rash or red splotches on skin, persistent fever, facial blisters and flu-like symptoms; and
- WHEREAS, affected persons must stop taking the offending drug immediately and contact a physician; and
- WHEREAS, recognition of the early symptoms of SJS and prompt medical attention are the best ways to minimize the possible long-term effects SJS may cause:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim August 2010 as **STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to educate themselves on the symptoms and treatment of this devastating problem.

*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* SECOND *day of* MARCH, *in*  
*the Year of Our Lord two thousand and*  
TEN, *and of the State of Illinois*  
*the one hundred and* NINETY-SECOND

*Esse White*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Pat Quinn*

GOVERNOR