



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, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), a not-for-profit organization, is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States, with more than 155,000 members; 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, telephone and cell phone systems are often disrupted, creating a need for amateur radio operators to step in and coordinate 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, the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the tornadoes that ravaged Illinois communities in April 2004 and March 2006; and
- WHEREAS, this year on June 27-28 the ARRL Amateur Radio Field Days exercise will be held to demonstrate radio amateurs' skills and readiness to provide self supporting communications even in fields without further infrastructure:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 2009 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 TWELFTH *day of* JUNE, *in*
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
NINE, *and of the State of Illinois*
the one hundred and NINETY-FIRST

Esse White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR