

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

- WHEREAS, *Canavan Research Illinois is an Illinois nonprofit corporation established in April 2000 to meet a critical need to support medical research to treat, cure, and improve the quality of lives of all children battling Canavan disease, a rare fatal genetic neurological disorder; and*
- WHEREAS, *the majority of the victims of Canavan disease do not reach their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. These innocent children face the loss of all motor functions, blindness, paralysis, feeding tubes, and eventual disintegration of the brain, at which point they fall into a vegetative state from which they cannot recover; and*
- WHEREAS, *Canavan Research Illinois is an all volunteer charity dedicated to raise funds to support cutting-edge research, increase public awareness, and provide a network for Canavan families; and*
- WHEREAS, *on October 9, 2008, Canavan Research Illinois will honor Max Randell's 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, a momentous milestone for this inspirational young man living with Canavan disease;*
- THEREFORE, I, Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2008 as **CANAVAN DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to raise awareness of Canavan disease and to improve the quality of life of those who are battling this disease.

*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-NINTH day of AUGUST, in*  
*the Year of Our Lord two thousand and*  
*EIGHT, and of the State of Illinois*  
*the one hundred and NINETIETH*

*Dee Dee White*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Rod Blagojevich*

GOVERNOR