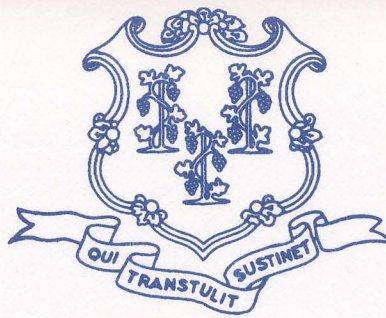


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and

*W*HEREAS, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

*W*HEREAS, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

*W*HEREAS, the State of Connecticut has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as state forests and grasslands for decades; and

*W*HEREAS, the State of Connecticut provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wildlands; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the week of June 22 – 28, 2008, as

POLLINATOR WEEK

in the State of Connecticut.

