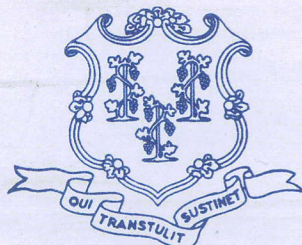


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

## Official Statement

WHEREAS, entrepreneurship is vital to Connecticut's growth and prosperity in today's global economy; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Labor, a majority of new jobs created throughout the United States in the past decade have come from the creative efforts of entrepreneurs and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, more than 70 percent of young people envision starting a business or doing something entrepreneurial as adults; and

WHEREAS, gains in economic recovery can be made through encouraging Connecticut's youth and adults both to be excited about entrepreneurship and to expand their knowledge and skills to become successful entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, more than 2300 people become independent entrepreneurs daily, joining the more than 20 million self-employed who make up more than 75 percent of the nation's 26 million plus business firms nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the National Governors Association encourages connecting education to economic growth industries, recognizing that entrepreneurship and small business creation are the growth engines of any economy; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills identified entrepreneurial literacy skills as one of the 21<sup>st</sup> century content areas critical to success in communities and workplaces; and, Connecticut's Career and Technical Student Organizations offer an array of programs, activities, and competitive events focused on entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of partner organizations in Connecticut and throughout the nation are actively engaged in enhancing entrepreneurial opportunities through collaboration and cooperation with the national Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education; and

WHEREAS, Entrepreneurship Week provides an opportunity to focus on the innovative ways in which entrepreneurial education can bring together the core academic, technical and problem-solving skills essential for future entrepreneurs and successful workers in future workplaces; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim the week of February 20 - 27, 2010, as

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK**  
in the State of Connecticut.

*M. Jodi Rell*  
Governor

